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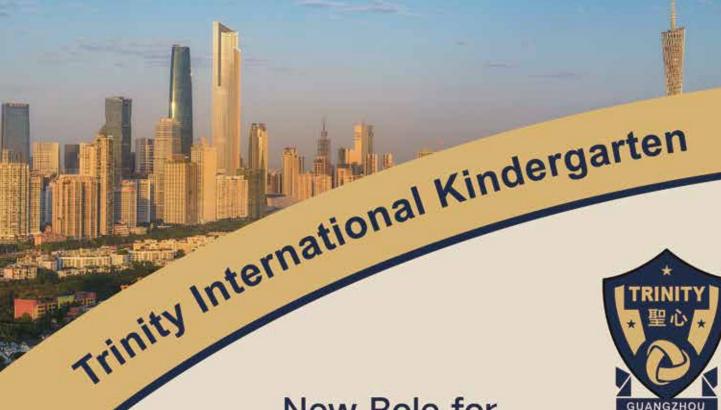
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### New Role for **Guangzhou Educator**

Ms Elaine Whelen is moving into a new role as Director of Education across all Trinity schools in Guangzhou and around China. Ms Alison Cook has taken over as Head of School at Trinity International Kindergarten in Zhujiang New Town. Ms Pam Cassidy will be Head of School at Trinity on Ersha Island and a new Trinity School in Huadu will have a Head of School appointed shortly.







Elaine Whelen has worked in K-12 International education in New Zealand, UK, Uganda and China for over 30 years. After many years in the role of Head of School she moved into founding two new international schools in Guangzhou for two separate investors: ISA International School and Trinity International Kindergarten. Both schools enjoyed rapid growth and strong branding within a short period of time due to Ms Whelen's ability to design modern learning spaces, meet the needs of 21st century learners, and adapt international school education to the new terrain of a multilingual, multicultural China, Parents trust Ms Whelen's vision because it is in accord with their dreams for their children's future success. A core belief for Ms Whelen is that the maintenance and development of mother tongue languages is the key to future academic, social and emotional success.

In 2015, Ms Whelen travelled to Beijing to be awarded a prestigious award for her contribution to the 5-Year Plan for Education in China (接受者: 2015年中国教育创新先进个人). She continues to read widely and incoprorate the latest research into her school designs. From her early career in the classroom, to her decades of educational leadership, to her more recent work designing schools fit for the current generation, Ms Whelen is passionate about the need to educate our young children to be ready for their future and to give them every chance to make our world a better place.



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#### that's PRD



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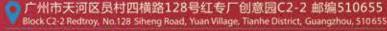
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### Editor's Note

**NOVEMBER 2018** 

Over October's National Day holiday, I traveled to northwestern China to visit the arid province of Gansu. While my trip included stops at some of the province's more notable tourist destinations, I also took the time to visit a rather remote settlement: Liqian, Yongchang county.

Situated on a desolate plot of earth at the edge of the Gobi Desert, the village of Liqian was purportedly established over 2,000 years ago by a group of Roman legionaries. The story of the area's ancient founders has received considerable attention in recent times, with scientists and researchers of every stripe descending on the county in search of the truth. For this month's cover story (pages 36-45), I explore the history of the area, introduce you to Liqian's modern inhabitants and attempt to answer the question: did ancient Romans really settle in Han Dynasty China?

In our City section, we take a look back at the construction woes of the newly-opened Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (page 9) and introduce you to some of South China's most dangerous critters (page 14).

Elsewhere in this issue, Jonathan Zhong shares a fun day trip in Huizhou (page 19) and *That's Shanghai*'s Dominic Ngai interviews the brilliant brothers behind Freitag (page 24).

Before I sign off, I want to take a quick moment to remind you – our trusted readers – that voting concludes on November 9 for the That's Food & Drink Awards 2018! Stay tuned to that smags.com for information on our Guangzhou and Shenzhen awards ceremonies – two nights of F&B magic that you do not want to miss!

Matthew Bossons Editor-in-Chief

At-



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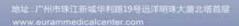
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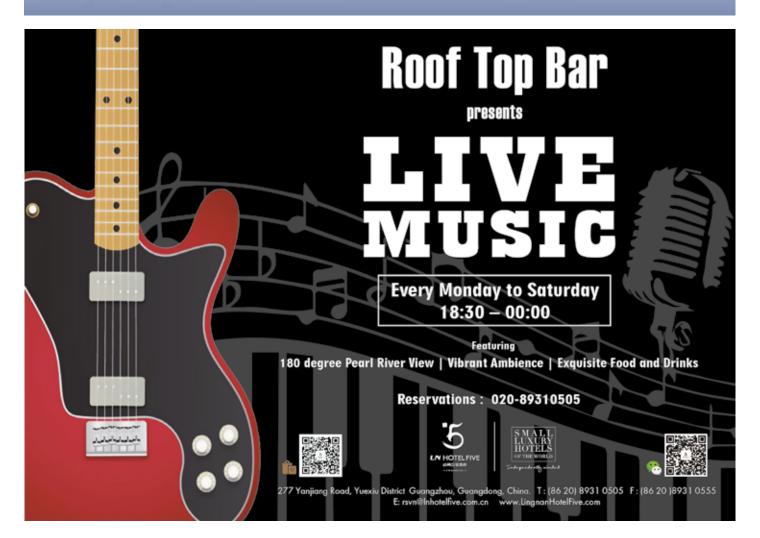
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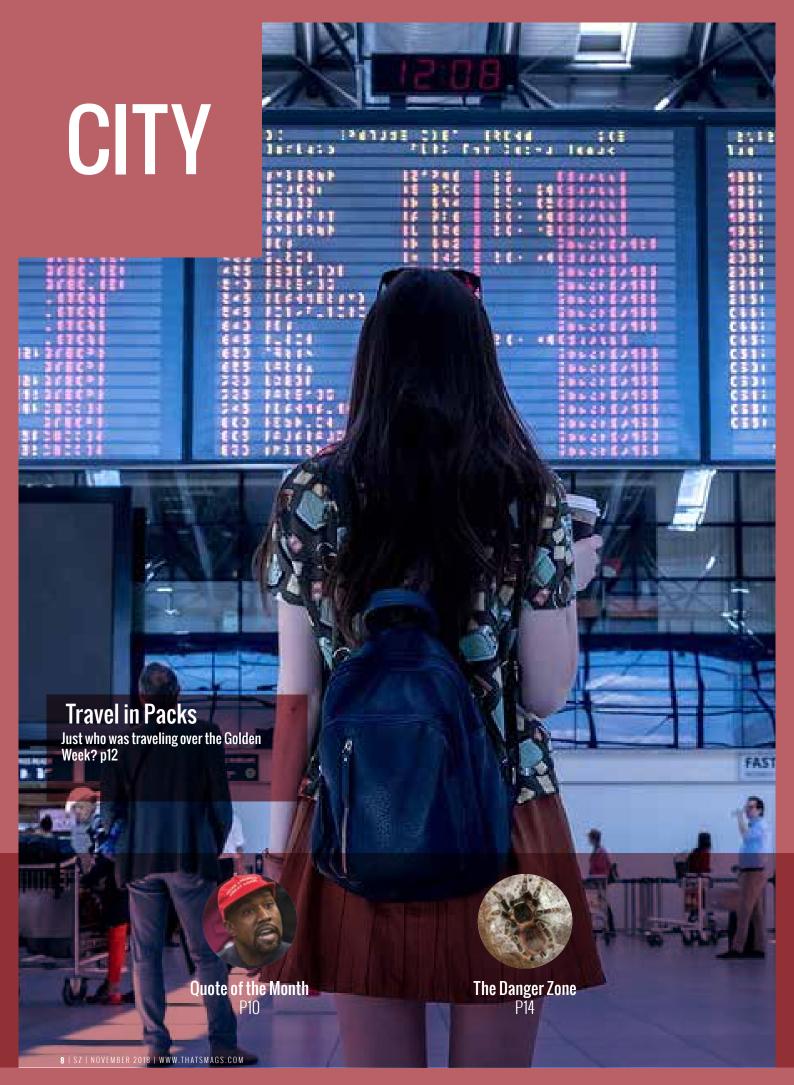
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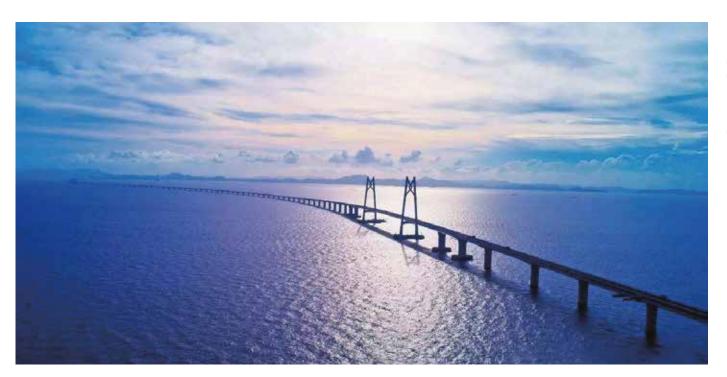


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### THE LONG ROAD

### Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge Opens After Toil and Tragedy

By Matthew Bossons

t's official folks, the long awaited Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge is now open to traffic. After nine long years, the bridge formally launched late last month, with the structure's opening ceremony held in Zhuhai on October 23.

Now, drivers traveling between Hong Kong International Airport and Zhuhai are able to complete their journey in roughly 45 minutes, down from around four hours prior to the bridge's opening, according to *South China Morning Post*.

The link spans 55 kilometers across and beneath the sea and is currently the longest ocean-crossing bridge in the world.

Construction of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge was anything but smooth. In March of last year, two construction workers were killed when a collapsed viaduct on Lantau Island pulled the men – one a Nigerian national – into the ocean. In a report into the accident, Dragages-China Harbour VSL Joint Venture was cited for failing to follow standard safety regulations, noting that the workers should have been attached to a more secure platform.

This was not the first time bridge developers committed violations. Between 2010 and July 2017, there were 275 incidents resulting in over 600 injuries and 10 fatalities, according to *South China Morning Post*.

Back in May of 2017, 21 individuals, made up of "two senior executives, two senior site laboratory technicians, 12 site laboratory technicians, and five laboratory assistants," were arrested for allegedly

falsifying concrete test reports.

But now that construction woes are in the past, attention has turned to the future of the bridge, with one question ringing out above all others: will usage of the bridge justify its massive cost?

Back in 2008, according to *South China Morning Post*, it was predicted that daily bridge traffic would reach 171,800 passengers and 33,100 vehicles by 2030. Eight years later, in 2016, a study forecast daily usage to hit 126,000 passengers and 29,100 vehicles.

A number of reasons were given for the lowered expectations, but the government has promised to monitor the situation and take appropriate steps to maximize the benefits of the record-breaking transport link.





## THE BUZZ

RANDOM NUMBER

### RMB10,000

- how much a man was fined for selling VPNs in Shanghai

Last month, a software developer was fined RMB10,000 and imprisoned in Shanghai for selling virtual private network (VPN) services online. A court in Shanghai's Baoshan District found the man, surnamed Dai, guilty of operating a website offering illegal VPN software that was sold to hundreds of China-based users between April 2016 and December 2017. Dai was slapped with the fine, sentenced to three years in prison and given a three-year suspension

for his crimes. Read more

about the incident by

scanning the QR code.





### DON'T YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

### **The Falling Stars Challenge**



You've probably seen some of the photos spread across social media depicting people sprawled upon the floor, surrounded by their most prized possessions. Aptly named the 'Falling Stars Challenge,' this new viral phenomenon can be traced back to early August when a Russian man posted a photo on Instagram of himself falling out of a grounded plane with his luggage still clutched in one hand. The social media craze eventually made its way to China, where by mid-October the trend had over 1.2 billion followers and nearly 800,000 people actively talking about and/or doing the challenge on Weibo. The hilarious photo-ops have been very creative, with renditions featuring a gymgoer surrounded by free weights, a firefighter faceplanting in front of a row of firetrucks and a man losing his balance at an emergency call center with papers scattered everywhere. Scan the QR code to see some of the best 'Falling Stars

Challenge' photos from China.



### "We're cheating on our country"

... So said Kanye West during a bizarre public appearance with US President Donald Trump at the White House last month. He ranted about everything from the US criminal justice system to North Korea (while wearing a 'Make America Great Again' hat, of course). Shortly after proposing to replace Air Force One with an Apple-designed 'iPlane 1,' West switched the topic to China. "We have to bring jobs into America, because our best export is entertainment and ideas," he said. "But when we make everything in China and not in America, then we're cheating on our country." Read more of his comments by scanning the QR code.



开挂 (kāiguà) v. To use cheat codes in a game; to excel so much as if one has a cheat code

The CEO of this billion-dollar company is only 22 years old.

I'm the same age but I'm broke.

He must know something we don't.

never get to his level

What a kaigua life he has, We'll

B

What kids today understand – and what we all should get through our thick and aging skulls too – is that life is a game with the sole objective of leveling up in the material world. If Level 10 is like working a demanding rat-race job for a crabby boss, Level 100 is like having a trust fund while traveling the world 'searching for yourself' and Level 1,000 is like having a fabulous wine cellar or a fleet of yachts (or both). Happiness simply can't be found on Level 10 when some are at Level 100 or even on Level 1,000. But how do we get there?

Until very recently in China, life seemed fair. Everyone logged into the game at the same level and whoever worked the hardest and killed the most trolls leveled up the quickest. However, in the past couple of decades, it seems that some players were automatically born into Level 100 status and quickly leveled up to 1,000 without diligently killing trolls or spending much time in the game at all. Some players started on the same level as us, but after a while began to level up much faster, leaving us in the dust. To the rest of us still killing trolls one by one, they look like they have typed in some kind of cheat code into the game of life.

Originally meaning 'to use cheat codes' in video games, *kaigua* now refers to what we think those overachievers seem to have done to advance so much in so little time, as if they know some kind of secret to the game that we don't.

We all know these people, who got into good schools, were given coveted jobs and became CEOs by the age of 26, all seemingly without much effort. Or those who went to the same high school as us, but later became international film stars and business moguls. Or those who used to share an office desk with us, but later launched a Nasdaq-listed company. They don't seem to be following the same rules of leveling up as we are, but we don't know their secrets.

Upon closer inspection, people who seem to *kaigua* have many reasons for overachieving – some due to family connections, others by deciding to abandon the rat race or focusing on one craft, starting the right business at the right time or pursuing a true passion.

You don't have to *kaigua* at a young age. Plenty of accomplished people only started to *kaigua* later in life, like Colonel Sanders, who founded KFC in his '60s. In the game of life, it's never too late to *kaigua*. Just remember to play it smart, not hard. **Mia Li** 

### ON A DAY IN NOVEMBER

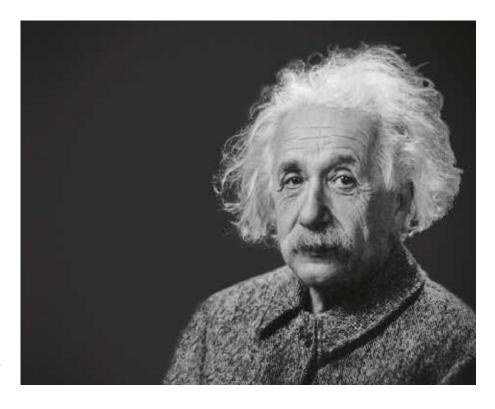
### When Albert Einstein Came to China

On November 13, 1922, everybody's favorite wild-haired physicist steamed into Shanghai, a stop on a series of lectures in Asia. It had been announced in far away Sweden just four days earlier that he had been awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics retroactively for 1921 (not for his Theory of Relativity, nerds will note, but for his discovery of the Law of the Photoelectric Effect).

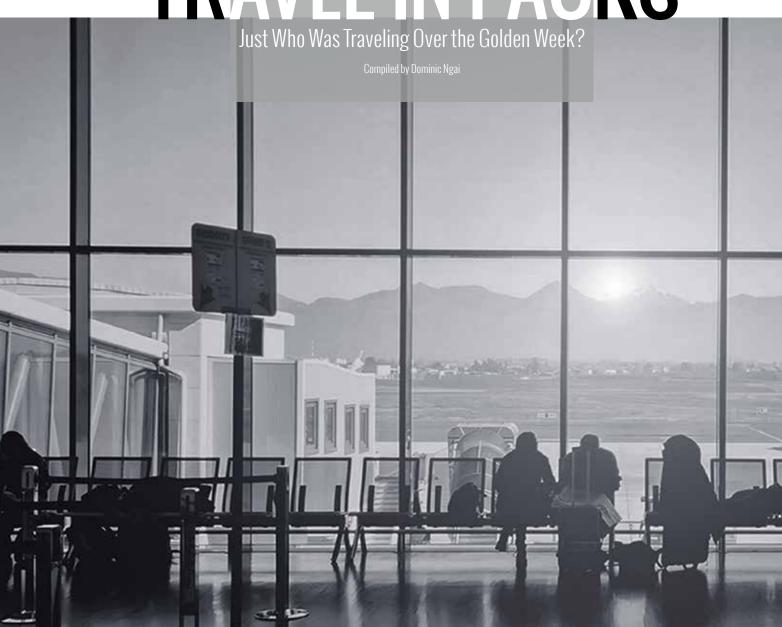
Rumors had reached him of the honor on board ship on November 11, and, accompanied by his wife, he was greeted by an enthusiastic reception from Jewish quarters of Shanghai. It was in the seaport that the Swedish consulate reiterated that he had officially been awarded the prize – a discovery that led to his departure to Japan the very

He returned to China a month and a half later to belatedly deliver his lecture on the Theory of Relativity.

Sadly, in 2018 Princeton University Press published Einstein's travel journals from his trips through Asia, and some shockingly racist attitudes towards Asians, and in particular Chinese people, are revealed within them.



TRAVEL IN PACKS



f chunyun is the largest human migration on the planet, then the Golden Week in October would be a warm-up race for the annual event that sees billions of Chinese returning to their hometowns or traveling overseas in the 40-day period surrounding Spring Festival.

According to Ctrip's 2018 October National Day Holiday Travel Report, the seven-day break last month saw 726 million tourists traveling to 798 destinations within the Chinese mainland, while revenue from domestic tourism reached RMB599 billion (a year-on-year increase of 9.04 percent).

What's more interesting is outbound travel trends, where Chinese tourists traveled to 1,000 destinations in 100 countries. This year, Thailand overtook Japan as the most popular country or region for

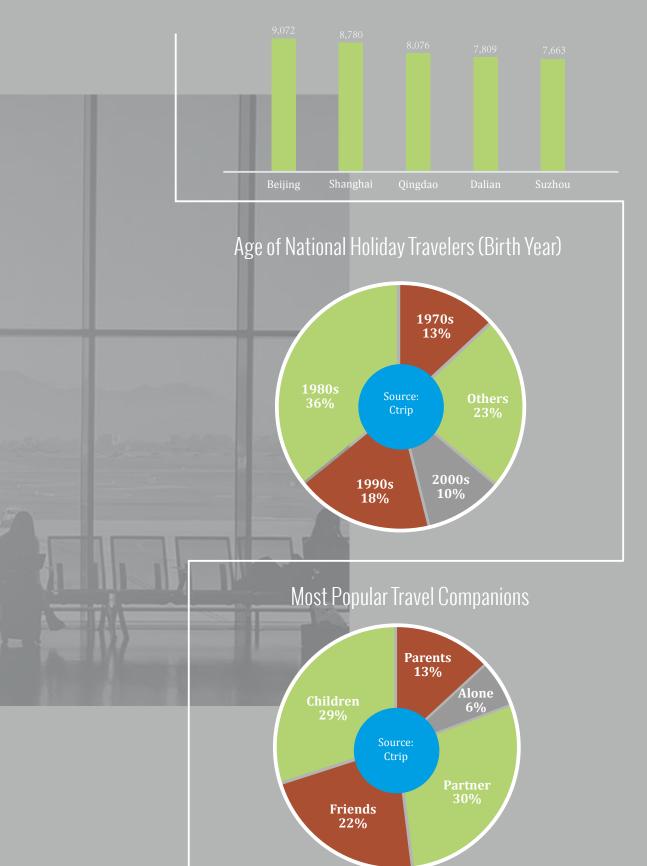
those from the mainland, while Hong Kong, Vietnam and Singapore rounded out the top five.

In terms of age, those born in the 1980s and 1990s remain as the backbone of the Golden Week traveling population, making up 36 percent and 18 percent of the pie respectively.

When it comes to travelers with the highest spending power, those from Beijing, Shanghai, Qingdao, Dalian and Suzhou came out on top. Many travelers chose to take their families overseas over the sevenday holiday, with partner (30 percent), children (29 percent) and parents (13 percent) being the top travel companions.

### Top 5 Cities with Highest Spending Power (Average Spending in RMB)





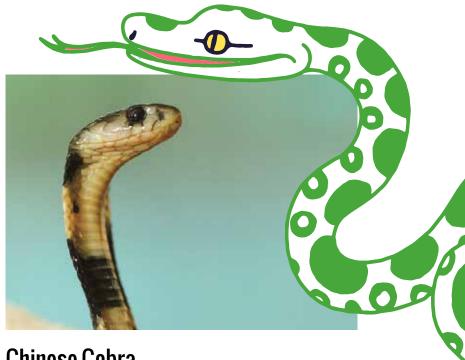


side from crazy driving, food scandals and cancer-causing chemical pollution, what else could you possibly have to worry about living in South China? The answer: several extraordinary members of the animal kingdom. Below we've rounded up five of South China's most dangerous creatures - although we'd like to note that most encounters are unlikely to result in bodily harm. In fact, humans are far more of a danger to these creatures than they are to us. So, before you squash that centipede under your shoe, remember that you have a better chance of getting squashed by a rogue taxi than dying from bug venom.



### **Chinese Bird Spider**

Credited with being one of the most venomous spiders in China, this is not a creature you want to encounter while stomping through the bush. A hyper-aggressive species of Old-World tarantula, the Chinese bird spider captures its prey by emerging unexpectedly from dirt burrows to attack and poison its victims. Despite its name, the spider predominantly preys on insects and small rodents, which are dispatched quickly by the species' strong venom. The Chinese bird spider is found throughout southern China and parts of Vietnam. If you are unfortunate enough to have one of these large, eight-legged predators poke its fangs into you, make haste to the nearest hospital or prepare for severe nerve damage.



### Chinese Cobra

Being attacked by a Chinese cobra is not something you want to experience. If bitten, you could expect a darkening of the bite wound, swelling, pain, blisters and necrosis, as well as slightly more minor (but also shitty) issues such as a sore throat, fever and lockjaw. Ultimately, a bite from a Chinese cobra could prove fatal.

Chinese cobras are found in South China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and parts of northern Laos and Vietnam, according to A Field Guide to the Venomous Land Snakes of Hong Kong. Since it's considered a vulnerable species (in terms of known numbers), your chances of running into a Chinese cobra are relatively slim (particularly if your daily routine sees you walking from home to work and back). That being said, between 1904 and 1938 there were 593 recorded cases of envenomation in Taiwan, with 87 fatal cases - a 15 percent mortality rate.

Mortality rates are much lower than before, but a nonfatal bite would still suck.

### **Chinese Red Head Centipede**

If this large and aggressive species of centipede cozies up to your skin, prepare for extreme pain, severe swelling, fever and general weakness, according Dr. Robert Norris, professor of surgery and emergency medicine at the Stanford University Medical Center.

The species, also known as the giant centipede, jungle centipede, red headed centipede and Vietnamese centipede (among numerous other names), is also the only species credited as the apparent cause of a human death. The alleged fatality occurred in the Philippines, where a 7-year-old girl was bitten on her head. She lived just 29 hours after envenomation.

The chances of a healthy adult dying from a Chinese red head centipede bite are decidedly low: you will likely experience serious to extreme discomfort but eventually make a full recovery. However, if the bite victim is young, old, or lives with a chronic medical issue, they should definitely get to a hospital pronto.

Recently, researchers in Guangzhou discovered that the Chinese red head centipede can cause you great discomfort if eaten raw, as the species carries a nasty food-borne parasite known as 'rat lungworm' that can cause meningitis.



### **Many-Banded Krait**

A highly venomous snake species, the many-banded krait can be found across South China, as well as in Myanmar, North Vietnam, Thailand and Laos.

During the Vietnam War, American GIs referred to the many-banded krait as the 'two-step snake,' according to the *The Snake Charmer* by Jamie James, due to their mistaken belief that the snake's venom can kill within two steps. While this is a gross exaggeration, the snake is amongst the most venomous serpents in the world. In *The Snake Charmer*, James writes: "Drop for drop, its venom is the deadliest of any land serpent's, apart from a few rare species found only in the outback of Australia. One bite of the krait carries enough concentrated toxin to kill two dozen grown men."

Identifying the snake is relatively easy, as it is generally dark in color with 20-30 white or cream-colored bands. If a snake matching this description happens to bite you, get to a hospital as quickly as possible: recently a 21-year-old woman was put on life support and declared brain-dead in Shaanxi province after being bitten on the hand by a many-banded krait she had bought as a pet.

In another startling event last September, juvenile many-banded kraits and cobras overran at least one apartment complex in Guangzhou, although no casualties were reported.



### **Chinese Green Tree Viper**

The Chinese green tree viper, sometimes also referred to as a bamboo viper or a Stejneger's pit viper, is among the world's most venomous species of snakes and is native to Yunnan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Fujian and Zhejiang in China, as well as Thailand, Myanmar and Laos.

A bite from this cheeky green snake will unleash a hemotoxin into the body that will leave the victim in excruciating pain and cause tissue and organ damage. Severe, untreated cases can result in death.

In 2017, a man in Guangzhou was bitten by a tree viper while attempting to adjust the seat on a shared bike. The snake, which was hiding under the bike's seat, was killed by the bite victim and several others who witnessed the incident. The man was then transported to a local hospital to receive treatment.



### WANBING HUANG

### Designer and Founder of AT-ONE-MENT

Interview by Dominic Ngai

Since rolling out her eponymous label in 2016, Wanbing Huang has caught the eye of the fashion industry in China and beyond, and her work has been featured in some of the most prominent fashion magazines and websites around the world. Just before her return to Shanghai Fashion Week to showcase her SS2019 collection, we chatted with the Guangzhou-born, London-based designer about her design inspirations, collaborating with Nike on a global campaign and the decision to rename her brand.

### You grew up in Guangzhou, studied in Tokyo and are now based in London. In what ways have these cities influenced your designs?

Guangzhou is my hometown and 'spiritual comfort zone,' I love the cozy environment, delicious food and all my friends. In Tokyo, besides world-class pattern cutting skills, I learned a lot about the rigorous and professional attitude and traditional Japanese artisan spirit. London is a melting pot of different cultures and a world-class art capital. I really enjoy immersing myself in this environment as it keeps me calm and creative.

### How would you describe someone who wears your clothes?

I want to create clothes for those sophisticated yet emotional women. They are strong and fragile, and are seeking artistic design that allows them to express themselves. My clothes capture their subtle but dynamic consciousness and highlights their beauty by creating a feminine image with elegance and spiritual connotation to help them to find their true self. My clothes can be a form of protection in a feminine way, but not an armor.

### Can you tell us about the new SS19 collection?

The theme of my SS19 collection is called 'La Lumiere Interieure,' which is inspired by the French avant-garde movie La Cicatrice Interieure. I want to use clothes to show



### "My clothes can be a form of protection in a feminine way, but not an armor"

the experience of a woman defeating her inner loneliness and pain through self-resistance to find the light of their soul and the meaning of life. The silhouettes are more fluid and romantic, and all the sharp edges are hidden to express a sense of elegance. The use of my signature fabric with peony-patterned jacquard conveys a romantic charm, and through the overlapping of lace and organza, I want to create some subtle yet polarizing hues. The collection also features exquisite craftsmanship of embroidery in the form of three-dimensional floral decorations.

You recently renamed your label as AT-ONE-MENT. Why did you make this decision? How will your designs under this new label be different from before?

AT-ONE-MENT is also the name of my graduation collection at Central Saint Martins, and I think it is a good name for my new chapter – to scale up and share my vision and creation with more women. I still follow my heart

when I design, so the artistic and experimental parts are still in the new label. I'm starting to think about sophisticated females as a wider group, and to further consider their emotional and physical needs. I want to build a wardrobe for them, which allows me to create more wearable pieces and develop a more complete collection.

You worked with Nike in 2017 on their Vision-airs campaign. How did the collaboration come about, and what was the experience like for you?

Nike spotted my work at my Labelhood presentation. Through Stavros Karelis (founder of Machine-A), they invited me to participate in this global campaign. I have to say it was really a wonderful collaboration. The Nike team was very respectful of my approach and provided some very useful feedback. I've learned a lot from them about how a big company operates and the importance of professionalism.

To learn more, visit wanbinghuang.co.uk

# STYLE RADAR

### JUST WATCH

### Anicorn x NASA

Hong Kong's Anicorn Watches has teamed up with NASA to create a limited edition time-piece to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the US government organization devoted to space research advancement. With only 60 pieces available worldwide (each marked with its own number from 1-60), the white textile strap features NASA's logo as well as the GPS coordinates of the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, and Cerakote ceramic coatings. Available on Anicorn's website for USD650

> anicorn-watches.com



### COVET

### Nike Air Max 98 Shanghai

Nike just released a pair of Air Max 98 exclusive to the China market. Inspired by the Middle Kingdom's most populated city, the 'Air Max 98 Shanghai' features a black-grey monogram of the Chinese characters for Shanghai printed all over its upper portion. Available for RMB1,299 at select retailers and on Nike's official website.

> nike.com

### OVERHEARD

### "There are a lot of fake products on most of these platforms"

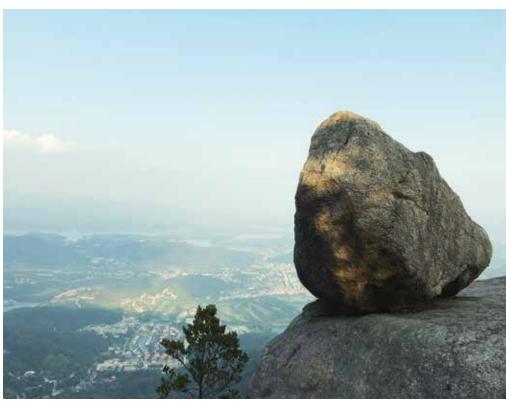
... said Gucci CEO Marco Bizzarri of his decision to refrain from partnering with ecommerce platforms run by Alibaba and JD.com at the Business of Fashion conference in Shanghai last month. Despite China's continuous growth in luxury sales, luxury giants like Louis Vuitton, Prada and Gucci only sell their products through their official websites and still have yet to jump on the third party ecommerce platform bandwagon. According to Bizzarri, in addition to maintaining the brand's exclusivity, his main concern is that the brand's presence on these platforms would legitimize the act of counterfeiting. While he admits that the company had been in touch with both Chinese ecommerce giants, he'd still prefer to wait until the situation improves before rethinking his decision.

> gucci.cn









### DAYTRIPPER

### Dizzying Heights at Huizhou's Luofu Mountain

ount Luofu, located in the northwestern part of Huizhou's Boluo county, dwarfs the Pearl River Delta region's other famous peaks. With an elevation of 1,296 meters, Mount Luofu's crown is 869 meters higher than the top of Baiyun Mountain in Guangzhou, and 950 meters higher than Mount Xiqiao in Foshan.

In addition to dizzying heights, the scenic area Mount Luofu is set within claims 980 waterfalls and another 430 peaks.

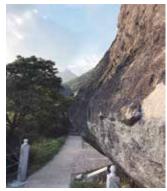
We set out from Huizhou's Huicheng District by car and arrive at Mount Luofu National Scenic Area approximately an hour later.

Walking past the Taoiststyle gate at the park's entrance, we come across a pond shrouded in mist. This area is called 'Renjian Xianjing,' or 'Heaven on Earth' in English, and the view from the pavilion at the edge of the pond certainly leaves an otherworldly impression.

A few minutes' walk from there and we arrive at a huge lake that stretches all the way to the foot of Mount Luofu. With a glassy, emerald surface, the body of water blends in perfectly with the lush green trees surrounding it. Further ahead, we can make out cable cars crawling slowly up and down the middle of the hill.

Continuing on to the base of the mountain, Chongxu Ancient Temple comes into sight. Mount





Luofu is often touted as one of the 10 most famous sacred mountains in the Taoist faith and Chongxu Ancient Temple boasts both distinct Taoist characteristics and 1,600 years of history.

Beyond the temple, our journey up the mountain begins. While you can utilize a shuttle bus service or cable cars to travel part of the way up Mount Luofu (approximately 600 meters above sea level), the journey to the summit is one that must ultimately be traversed on foot.

While the scenery on the lower portion of the mountain is nothing to write home about, the upper half of 1,296-meter peak offers intrepid daytrippers phenomenal views and some unique rock formations to gawk at.

It takes around five hours to walk to the top of the mountain, but it's worth it. If you find yourself exhausted on the walk down, opt for the shuttle service or cable car to shorten the return journey.

To get the most out of your visit to Mount Luofu National Scenic Area, be sure to arrive

early in the morning (8 or 9am) so that you'll have plenty of time to wander the park and climb the mountain before the last cable car leaves at 5.30pm. We also strongly recommend bringing cash with you for this adventure, as phone reception in the park is nonexistent. IZ

#### How to get there:

From Guangzhou:
Take a bus from Tianhe
Coach Terminal to Luofu
Mountain (Boluo county/
RMB40). Or, take a train from
Guangzhou East Railway
Station to Huizhou Railway
Station (not Huizhou South
Railway Station). From there,
take a cab or bus (208, 209,
5, or 11) to Huizhou Coach
Terminal, where you can
catch a shuttle bus to the scenic area.

From Shenzhen:
Take the train from Shenzhen
Railway Station (RMB18.5/
hard seat) or Shenzhen East
Railway Station to Huizhou
Railway Station (RMB16.5/
hard seas) then follow the
same travel tins listed above

# 11 Ouirly Cifts for Vour

11 Quirky Gifts for Your Single Friends

Compiled by Dominic Ngai

Singles' Day has in recent years become another excuse to shop online in China, but to honor the origins of this special day, here are a few funny gift ideas for your single and fabulous friends.



'SINGLE DOG' PLUSH TOY RMB23 TMALL.COM



BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY DVD APPROX. RMB15 YOUR LOCAL DVD VENDOR





Words by Dominic Ngai, photos by Zhang Qianxi

Project name: Temple for the God of Wealth

Location: Huoshan county, Lu'an

Area: 20 square meters

Design company: CNRPD / Fuyingbin Studio

> cnrpd.com

**The brief:** While they were constructing a public square and parking lot for Huoshan county, the project team from CNRPD and Fuyingbin Studio found a nearly 200-year-old temple for the God of Wealth onsite. As they dug deeper into its history, and discovered it had been a spiritual gathering space, as well as a symbol for fortune and luck for the local village for generations, the designers decided to convince their client to allow them to move the monument and rebuild it nearby.







- ▲ Unlike the former structure, which was dark and covered by concrete walls and a traditional roof, the new pavilion features an open-air area for worship.
- Moved just 10 meters away from where the original used to be, the new temple is surrounded by hills and greenery on three sides.
  - ► For the temple's concrete frame, designers enlisted the help of local craftsmen to create a unique mold that resembles woven bamboo mats.







▲ The walls are made with hollow red bricks, which allow plenty of natural light to enter the area of worship. Local villagers have also filled the holes with blessings for their loved ones.

# BAGS & BROS

### Markus and Daniel Freitag on Taking Their Brand from Zurich to Shanghai

By Dominic Ngai

ith a devoted fan base around the world, Freitag, a Zurich-based company that has been producing one-of-a-kind messenger bags, backpacks and accessories from old truck tarpaulin, seatbelts and bicycle inner tubes since 1993, is considered by many to be a cult brand. Search for its name or the '#frtg' hashtag on Instagram and you'll find hundreds of accounts, as well as tens of thousands of posts where fans all over the world show off the latest addition to their colorful and unique collections.

And if Freitag is a cult brand, then founders Markus and Daniel Freitag would be considered cult leaders. Both designers by training, the two brothers created their very first messenger bag out of recycled material some 25 years ago when they needed a water-repellant bag to transport their design drafts while cycling through their hometown's notoriously wet weather.

Today, the brand produces 450,000 bags and accessories a year from their factory in northern Zurich, selling them through their website, 24 Freitag stores in Europe and Asia, as well as hundreds of dealers and partner stores across the globe.

Over a period of 10 days in September, the brothers roamed through Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Beijing and Shanghai to participate in a series of design talks at various universities, bookstores and art museums, in addition to attending the opening of their first store on the Chinese mainland in partnership with local reseller Harbook+ on Julu Lu. During their whirlwind tour, I sat



DANIEL (LEFT) AND MARKUS FREITAG. PHOTO BY ROLAND TANNLER

down with Markus and Daniel to discuss their brand philosophy, Freitag's popularity in Asia, and what it's like to build a business as brothers.

### Out of Context

The official opening party of Freitag Store Shanghai is still a couple of hours away, but a group of diehard fans from Beijing are already patiently waiting in line outside the cordoned-off complex. Armed with their favorite Freitag bags and accessories, they're determined to be the first to see the inside of the brand's 23rd branded outlet around the world, and to have Markus and Daniel Freitag sign their bags. This is a scene that the brothers are familiar with, as it is something that they've done

many times at previous store openings, or at brand events in anywhere from Tokyo and Bangkok to New York and Berlin.

Throughout history, design has always reflected the cultural and economic realities in which an idea is conceived. And for Freitag, the 'terroir' that gave birth to the bread and butter of the brand was a busy freeway outside the brothers' window where hordes of colorful trucks pass by on a daily basis. The brothers' resourcefulness allowed them to become one of the pioneers of upcycling, and many of their loyal fans are initially drawn to the brand because of their label's sustainable nature.

"This is something that has remained the same over the past 25 years, which I think is quite special for a fashion brand," says Marcus of Freitag's main offerings. "And no matter if they're young or old, male or female, or where they're from, many of our customers all share the same mindset and values of the brand."

Even with their success and recognition worldwide, the Freitag brothers still remain the company's creative directors, acting as central figures of the brand's internal and external storytelling process. "In the beginning we just called it recycling," Daniel says. "But over the years, we've become much better at articulating what we do in a more precise manner - dissecting the issue of sustainability down to finer points with a term that we've come to love: 'recontextualization."

It is indeed one of their most frequently used buzzwords in different public speaking engagements and interviews. Recontextualization, or taking something out of its original context and putting it into a new one, makes one stop and raise questions: Why do Freitag bags look so dirty? (Because they're made with used truck tarps.) Why are there 19 rusty freight containers stacked on top of each other in the center of Zurich? (That's Freitag's Flagship Store). From that point on, a dialogue is established, and the conversion process is initiated.

### Spreading the Gospel

"You can't really narrow [our target audience] down to a specific demographic or style," Daniel tells me. "But we know that Freitag is popular among the 'creators' in various fields – music, arts, journalism... This is an



FREITAG STORE SHANGHAL PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE BY PETER DIXIE

advantage for us as they're good storytellers and love to spread the word out, and the rise of social media has really helped in that regard."

One example of a devout disciple of Freitag in China is Darou, who is better known by his Instagram handle @freitagstranger. A longtime follower of the brand, the Shanghainese designer and art teacher has been taking snapshots of Freitag bags he sees on the streets of the city since 2015.

"These days, I run into three to seven people wearing Freitag bags in my neighborhood of the former French Concession on a daily basis," Darou tells me. "But in terms of the hardcore collectors, I think those in Japan and Thailand are much 'crazier' than the ones in China. In particular, I think Japanese pop culture has had quite a lot of influence on the brand's popularity in China."

From fans who specifically seek out rare all-black items to those who go out of their way to find all products cut out of the same piece of tarp to reconstruct an entire truck, Freitag has established a loyal fan base in the two aforementioned Asian countries since the late 1990s and early 2000s.

In the book Freitag – Out of the Bag, a brand biography published by the Museum fur Gestaltung Zurich, Ken Jungnickel, former director of JykK Japan Inc (Freitag's local reseller), attributes the brand's popularity among the Japanese to the society's preference for collectivism over individualism, a notion that also rings

true for other East Asian countries like China.

"The individuality that is part of the philosophy behind the brand also gives customers the chance to be unique and to show it, to be proud of their choice of bag. That's what makes Freitag so special here," Jungnickel said to the interviewer.

Besides the desire to rebel against the collective social norm, however, Freitag fans in Asia are actually not all that different from their Western counterparts. "We see Asian male customers prefer smaller bags, something that isn't very common for Europeans; that's the most obvious difference." explains Daniel. "But color-wise, it's as diverse as other markets. But generally speaking, newer markets go for more colorful bags with interesting patterns or designs, while more mature ones favor more laidback, darker colors and monochromatic designs."

### Family Business

Working with your own brother, according to both Markus and Daniel, comes with its pros and cons. While the duo often can agree quickly on 'what' initiatives to take on and 'why' they're doing it, there's often a debate in 'how' to reach these goals. "I think one of the good things about working as brothers is that you can challenge each other in a tough way, but in the end, you know you're still family," Marcus says, adding that disagreements between business partners is

common regardless if they're brothers or not.

"Since we've been working together for 25 years, and have known each other for our entire lives," Daniel continues, "we've developed a slang where we're able to communicate with just a few spoken words – that's both good and bad because we run into the danger of staying in the same pattern, and breaking them is a constant challenge that we have to work on."

While their company has grown from a two-person team to 200 employees since 1993, Markus and Daniel still very much consider Freitag to be a family business. "We've been known as a Zurich brand, a Swiss brand and a European brand, but I think it's

time for us to become a multi-domestic brand. Having established local teams with local colors of the brand in different countries has really enriched our perspective," says Daniel of Freitag's growing global presence.

"Living in Europe, China's portrayal in mainstream media is always related to its politics, its rapidly growing economy and changing society," he adds. "What's interesting for us on this trip is to see that the awareness for sustainability is also growing here. Freitag may still be speaking to a niche audience here today, but hopefully this niche will become the future of the market."

freitag.ch





### LIT FROM WITHIN

Artist Lindy Lee on Fire, Taoism and 'White Australia'

Born in Brisbane, Lindy Lee grew up as a second generation Australian in a Chinese family. From a young age, she knew she had no other choice besides being an artist. Having practiced throughout her life, the 63-year-old with her iconic, black fringe bangs has experimented with a number of mediums. From photography to burning paper, it wasn't until later in her career that she turned to the large scale, perforated steel sculptures that she's become famous for – and that can be found across China.

### How did you first come about working in China?

I've been traveling to China since 1979, first as an art student, then during the 1990s and early 2000s when I did a number of artist residencies in Beijing. In 2009, I began to incorporate fire and water in my work. Shortly after that, Alison Pickett, a Hong Kong-based art consultant, commissioned me to do a work for Shanghai ifc Mall. Coincidentally, it was through this commission that I met Daniel and Matthew Tobin, the founding directors of UAP. Since then, I have collaborated with them on many public art projects not only in China but also throughout Asia, Australia and the US.

### What is the focus of your practice?

The focus of my work has always been concerned with the nature of 'self' in the world. Being born Chinese in a predominantly white society gave me pause when I was growing up. I had to reflect very deeply on how I could live an authentic life when my primary experience of 'being' was of schism between ancestry and birthplace. This profound sense of 'split-ness' led me to Zen Buddhist philosophy where the first principle is that humanity and cosmos are inextricably linked. By virtue of interconnection, we can never step outside of cosmos. A sense of intimate connection with the infinite is what I want to convey.



"I had to reflect very deeply on how I could live an authentic life when my primary experience of 'being' was of schism between ancestry and birthplace"

You work in a lot of different mediums
- was that process something that came
naturally for you or how did you go about
transitioning from 2D to 3D (paper to
metal)?

The transition from 2D to 3D had a lot to do with my relationship with UAP. I showed Dan and Matt my fire drawings and they immediately saw the potential for this method to be applied to more substantial materials like steel. They offered to support my experiments, so my modest fire perforated drawings, which were done in the isolation of my Beijing studio 10 years ago, became the basis of my monumental stainless steel sculptures like 'Life of Stars' and 'Tenderness of Rain.'

### As a Chinese-Australian woman, how has your experience and your identity shaped what you do?

Being a Chinese-Australian woman has shaped my entire existence. In Australia, from 1949-1973, there was an immigration policy called 'White Australia.' Chinese in particular were not welcome. Luckily, my grandfather was already living in Australia, although he was not allowed to ask his family from China to join him. When my grandfather decided to return to China, my father was granted permission to take his place. However, it took almost a decade for my father to find

a way to bring my mother and brothers to Australia, and then my sister and I were born. Questioning race, identity and belonging have been a core motivation in my work, especially at the beginning of my career.

### What ongoing project are you most excited about?

General speaking, I'm excited about all my projects but I get most excited about the ones that are closest to installation. Right now, I'm finishing 'Tenderness of Rain' – a large work that will be placed outside the headquarters of the Times Group in Guangzhou.

### What has been one of the most rewarding aspects of working in China? How about making art in general?

The rewards of working in China have been immeasurable. Those early residencies in Beijing gave me the space and time to be very experimental in my studio practice and were extremely important for developing the work I am now doing. Now I work mostly in Shanghai, which gives me another kind of opportunity to immerse myself in Chinese culture as a way of connecting with my ancestry, especially through the friendships I've been able to form.

To see her work and installation locations, visit lindylee.net

# COLLAGE

### **COMING TO A THEATER NEAR YOU**



### The House With The Clock in its Walls

Based on the spellbinding novel by John Bellairs, Jack Black, Cate Blanchett and Kyle MacLachlan face off in a wizardly battle of good versus evil. Black and Blanchett's characters seek the help of orphan Lewis Barnavelt (Owen Vaccaro) in an attempt to save themselves and their home from the evil that is bound to strike when the clock in its walls hits its final strike. With an all-star cast, this children's fairytale comes to life in a magical spectacle for all ages.



### Venom

Marvel's back with their newest anti-hero, Venom. Investigative journalist Eddie Brock (Tom Hardy) gets more than he bargained for when pursuing a lead at a bioengineering lab. Science-fiction, intense fight scenes, Hong Kong skyline shots and impressive motorcycle races ensue as Brock embraces his inner demon (and by that, we really mean an alien parasite that's requiring him to play host). Critics claim that Marvel learned their lesson with *Deadpool* and have come back in full swing with this action-packed atypical good-gone-bad film.

### TRANSLATED

"Unique storytelling, worth a watch #filmkissingbooth I've waited so long. Youth is still merry. Want to see #GoldP-ickingUnexpectedRomance"



... so writes an excited Weibo user. Fans of Kevin Kwan's best-selling novel *Crazy Rich Asians* were ecstatic last month when it was announced that the recent film adaptation would hit the big screen in China under the name 'Gold Picking Unexpected Romance.' Having made international news as Hollywood's first all-Asian cast, the blockbuster was originally released in North America on August 15, with subsequent international releases in the following weeks. While there's been some question as to how the movie will sit with Chinese viewers, you'll find out whether or not these glammed-up, good-looking men and women about town will bring in the same kind of cash that the studio's been banking overseas at the end of the month.

### HAO BU HAO



### Hao

Krish Raghav of Splitworks and arts journalist/former drummer for Chui Wan Josh Feola have started working on a comic book, highlighting 10 formative bands in contemporary Chinese music history. Starting with Beijing-based Hang on the Box, one of China's earliest allgirl punk bands, the respective chapters aim to present a corrective history from the mid-'90s to present day – one that puts the musicians at the forefront. With the first chapter well underway, this narrative is looking to add an important voice to the industry's ever-evolving story.



### Bu Hao

Xinhua reported that world-famous actress Fan Bingbing has been fined RMB884 million for tax evasion. The actress, who has been in and out of the public eye for the last few months, was accused of signing illegal 'yin-yang' contracts (declaring two different incomes). As a first-time offender, Fan won't be prosecuted if the fines are paid in full by the established deadline, however, if she does not she could face criminal charges. One thing's certain, crime doesn't pay, especially when it comes to your taxes.



### SINO CELEB

### Jay Chou

If you enjoy watching Voice of China, Jay Chou is a familiar face, having acted as a 'mentor' on the show for the past two seasons. Chou is also notable for teaming up with NBA star Jeremy Lin this past year to take on a role in Dunk of China, a popular basketball game show. Here's five things you should know about the Mandopop and pop culture behemoth that is Jay Chou.



#### Piano Before Books

As a student, Chou did terribly academically. Instead, he channeled his energy into music and practicing the piano.



#### **Budget Musician**

Before making his mark on the Chinese music scene, Chou lived in a tiny studio in Taipei where he composed music on a TWD600-a-song contract for less-talented, good-looking singers, subsisting on ramen and fried chicken.

#### A Prolific Musician

After dropping his debut, self-produced album in 2000, 'President Chou,' as he's referred to by fans, has gone on to release 13 additional albums.

#### The Cover of Time

Chou was profiled for the first cover story of *Time*'s Asia edition in 2003. The story was titled 'New King of Asian Pop.'

#### From Music to Movies



Chou directed and acted in the well-received film Silent in 2007, before collaborating with Canadian funnyman Seth Rogan in The Green Hornet in 2011.





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# SOFT AND SOUND

Rhye on The Emotive New Record and Being Vulnerable

By Valerie Osipov







rom their ambiguous start, made even more ambiguous by the androgynous and illusive vocals of lead singer Mike Milosh, Rhye captivated listeners with their subdued R&B-influenced pop. Though Milosh admits this initial cloud of mystery was never intentional.

"I was never trying to dupe anybody. It was just other people's interpretations. But I wasn't really surprised by it – I just sing high." The Canadian artist never neatly fit into society's mold of masculinity, having no trouble expressing fragile and inevitable human emotions.

"I don't think I ever adhered to the normal male archetypes," says Milosh, who was involved in dance at a young age. "I was never overly sensitive or overly dominant, I just never understood why so many men can't be vulnerable. Everyone has emotions, everyone has feelings and everyone needs to express that."

Illuminated by sultry synths and honeyed melodies, his music mirrors that very belief, intimately conveying themes of love, heartbreak and everything in between. Starting out as a duo with Danish instrumentalist Robin Hannibal, Rhye debuted their first album, *Woman*,z in 2013. The romantic record, featuring the tender and expansive single 'Open,' is a flawless collection of delicate disco layered with lush vocals – an echo of the soft and sensual funk perfected by '80s singersongwriter Sade.

After parting ways with his collaborator and riding the tumultuous waves of a divorce, Milosh returned with *Blood*, his valiant sophomore release in February of this year. The tantalizing record flows gracefully with some newfound edge, yet keeps the same velvety vocals and slow, pulsating beats. Tracks like 'Count To Five' and 'Taste' are more experimental and bass-driven, while the haunting opener 'Waste' is raw

and simple, a gentle exposure of the wounds Milosh is reflecting on. On playing those songs live, he takes pride in bringing Rhye's serene, sonic sound to the stage with a full band: "It's all live music. There are no backing tracks, no computers on stage. It's a very organic experience.

"I wanted to make a record that translates live really well. For me, it was a product of playing so many concerts and allowing that to inform the sound of the new record."

Despite being quite well traveled from touring all over the globe, Milosh makes his China debut this month, with stops in Shanghai and Beijing. He looks forward to discovering unfamiliar cities and connecting with even more of his fans.

"It's kind of amazing to find a place I've never been to before," he says. "A place that's still unique to me – it's a very adventurous feeling."

Aside from writing and producing his music, the ambitious musician is also inspired by other art forms such as photography, and even directs his own music videos, with plans to make a feature film eventually. Though he's shouldering a demanding career, Milosh has no complaints. "I do things that I enjoy doing. I enjoy making music, I enjoy producing, I enjoy trying – I do the things I love doing.

"If I don't enjoy it, then I just don't do it."

Clockenflap 2018: Fri-Sun Nov 9-11, 5-11pm (Fri)/noon-11pm (Sat&Sun); RMB800-1,460, free for children under 12. Hong Kong Central Harbourfront, 9 Lung Wo Road Central and Western District Hong Kong (247tickets.com)



### BANDCAMP B A B Y

The 19-Year-Old Internet All-Star, Boy Pablo

By Sarah Forman

midst a shaky frame in low-resolution, the camera slowly zooms in on a boy standing alone on a dock in Bergen, Norway. Donning a pink sweatshirt and black athletic shorts, Nicolas Pablo Muñoz plays an unplugged electric guitar. After a quick cut, four other teenage boys join him, all playing their own disconnected instruments, while the camera zooms in and out to relaxed, dreamy, indie rock. This would be where it all kicked off for Boy Pablo.

Taking influence from old Chilean music, rapper Tyler the Creator and Sweden's queen of pop Veronica Maggio, Pablo's sound incorporates aspects of all three in a true dream-pop bedroom lo-fi phenomenon that's designed to go viral, but their sound isn't the only thing working in their favor. The music video for 'Everytime' would go on to rack up over 13 million views thanks to thousands of up votes on Reddit and YouTube's algorithms, but this 2017 release was just the first of many to make the internet A-list. The opening shot of 'Sick Feeling' zooms in on a partially submerged floating guitar from the eponymous videogame, and ends with Pablo jumping fully clothed into the body of water.

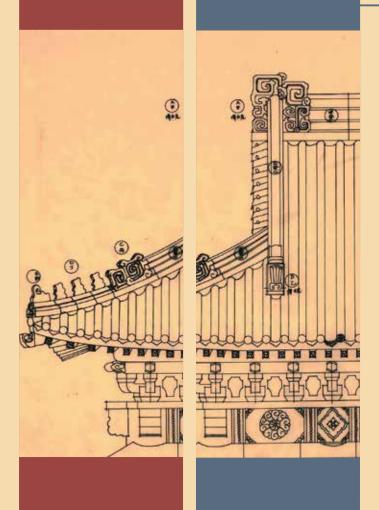
As of October 2018, the video has 2.3 million views. The band has three recorded a capella versions of 'Afternoon Delight', originally written by Bill Danoff, sung in a park, a desert and in a lake while the five of them sit in an inflatable lounger.

Their videos are fun with an inextricably DIY feel, but one of their most appealing traits is that it doesn't seem like Boy Pablo is doing it for anyone but themselves. In live shows, songs are constantly interrupted by laughter and occasional quips. They introduce each other under fake names and relationships, and clearly don't take themselves too seriously. The band is simply comprised of a group of high school friends who like making and playing music together – a refreshingly genuine stance on a worldwide web that's saturated with try-hards.

While the US-based streaming platform has been huge in spreading the band's music, Pablo got his own start on Bandcamp, an independent distribution platform for unsigned artists and indie record labels. He came from a musical family, picking up his brother's drum set and his father's guitar before moving to the computer, where he learned to record and mix on Garageband. While the band may be moving into bigger and better recording spaces, their sound and attitude remain true to their boyish charm. They've just released their most recent album Soy Pablo, and will be making their way through Asia with instruments and video cameras in hand. At this rate, if anyone's going to break the internet, we think it just might be them.

Nov 20, 8pm; HKD275 early bird, HKD320 presale MoM Livehouse, B39, 7 Seas Shopping Centre, 113-121 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong.





### TRADITIONAL CHINESE DWELLINGS

### Exploring China's Vast and Varied Architectural Styles

Written by Yin Lixin

#### About the Book:

Architecture reflects the daily lives of people during a specific time period, and *Traditional Chinese Dwellings* is a book that explores the country's folk culture and customs using architectural styles and characteristics throughout history as a lens.

To get a comprehensive look at the subject matter, writer Yin Lixin dives into major historical events and the geography of different parts of China to explain how they affected the ways in which buildings and houses were constructed, as well as in what ways these structures have shaped the way people lived and interacted with nature and each other.

#### About the Author:

Yin Lixin is a member of Chinese Cultural Heritage Association's 20th Century Heritage Committee and the deputy chief editor of Chinese Architectural Culture Heritage. Traditional Chinese Dwellings has been recommended by architecture experts and has been referenced multiple times by industry insiders since it was published.





ARTS | MUSIC

# CHINA MUSIC CORNER Three New Homegrown Albums on Our Radar This Month

By Sarah Forman

### **The Revival** by Stranded Whale

Sad boy city folk and harmonies reminiscent of Elliot Smith are two of the most notable features of Stranded Whale's new album *The Revival*. Their 2015 release, *Northern Tower*, sported lazy guitars, vaguely psychedelic chords, a dose of jazz and soft vocals, while their new work is pointedly darker. The second album from the Hong Kong-based band turns further toward alternative rock, with a diverse range of influences that really highlight the work they have put in over the last two years. 'Sunday's Over' takes a page from Radiohead with eerie, monotonous vocals and a heavy piano presence, while 'Grey' features the members of Taiwan-based chamber orchestra, Cicada. Distributed via Qii Snacks Records, this conversion of their sound toward a heavier and more emotional ethos truly is a revival for the five-piece band.

Listen here: qiiisnacksrecords.bandcamp.com/album/the-revival





### **Disorientalism** by Cruel Buddhist

With a lo-fi Christmas album under his belt, Cruel Buddhist is no stranger to songs built to break the internet. *Disorientalism* isn't any different – a seven-track release with seamless transitions, well-timed glitches and synth-strained strings. Instrumental hip-hop and low-sitting beats make for a perfect late-night bike ride or slightly disorienting study soundtrack. It's a good kind of weird that lands somewhere between the softer side of Flying Lotus and the less aggressive side of Adult Swim. With sparingly used distorted lyrics pulled from other media samples, this Shanghai-based producer has continued to solidify his place in the lo-fi funk rolodex.

Listen here: cruelbuddhist.bandcamp.com/album/disorientalism

### Gentle Moon by Pocari Sweet

Riffing off of one of Asia's favorite hangover cures, Pocari Sweet's first album truly lives up to its moniker. The four-person band from Guangzhou put together a four-track dreampop gem. Its beachy vibes (with track titles like 'By the Ocean'), gentle reverb and echoing verses are a beautiful ode to a season quickly fading into memory. This album gently floats you from summer to fall, with the full potential to carry you through to warmer weather six months from now. In the meantime, these songs may cause you to stare out of windows and wish for rain.

Listen here: pocarisweet.bandcamp.com/releases





# HOTTEST DEALS

## The Bestsellers on thMart

Natural Spring Water, Towels, Designer Homeware and Tea Cocktails





## Harrogate Spring Water, from RMB187

Favored by celebrities and high-end restaurants around the world, this natural water from The Pinewoods Conservation of the renowned UK spa town Harrogate epitomize style, quality and refinement.



These soft, fluffy towels are made with premium long stapled cotton, which absorbs moisture to keep your skin dry and comfortable.





### Desktop PD, RMB180

Created by Canada's Umbra Design Studio, you can easily display multiple photos of your loved ones and favorite memories on this 'photo tree' on your desk or shelf.



Available in three different colors, this dish rack by Canadian design label Umbra allows you to keep your kitchenware organized.







#### Noveltea, from RMB 118

Combining tea and booze – two things that the Brits love – Noveltea offers a series of cold-brew tea and fine spirits mixes that are perfect for a lazy afternoon.



# LOST IN TIME

The Vanished Roman Legion of Ancient China

Text and photos by Matthew Bossons

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n 1957, American sinologist Homer H. Dubs published A Roman City in China, a book detailing the academic's theory that a group of Roman soldiers worked as border guards for the Western Han Dynasty at the empire's western edge. These ancient expatriates, Dubs suggests, were survivors of Rome's catastrophic loss to Parthia at the Battle

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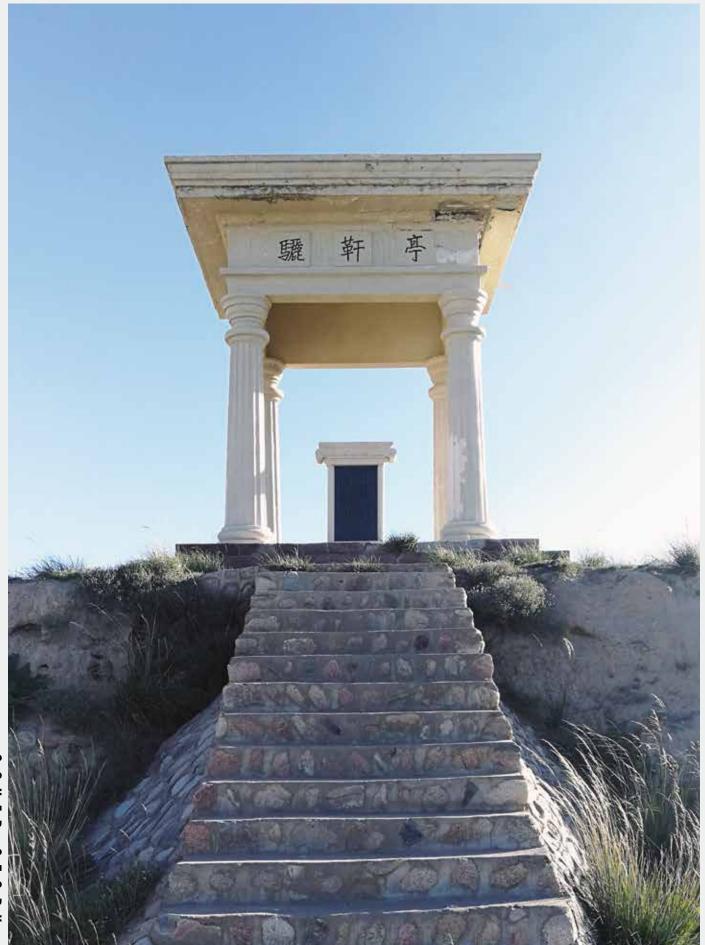
were survivors of Rome's catastrophic loss to Parthia at the Battle of Carrhae in 53 BCE, afterwards moving to the eastern front of the Parthian Empire before eventually finding their way into battle with Chinese troops. In defeat, Dubs claims, the out-of-place legionaries were moved by the Western Han Dynasty to "a specially created frontier city, to which the Chinese of course gave their name for Rome, which was Lijien (now Liqian)."

Today, Liqian is a small village of earth-rammed homes located in Gansu province and, in the decades since the publication of *A Roman City in China*, Dubs' theory has led researchers, archeologists and even geneticists to visit the town, all looking to answer the same tantalizing questions: did a Roman legion settle in ancient China? And, if so, are those living in Liqian today the descendants of these lost troops?

GOVER SIORY

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COVER STORY



n an arid expanse of earth on the edge of the mighty Gobi Desert lies the county of Yongchang. Located in Gansu province's northcentral region, the area is a four-hour drive away from the provincial capital of Lanzhou via National Highway G30, and by rail.

The journey by slow train, while scenic, puts Yongchang's remoteness into perspective. China's iconic green, yellowstriped trains travel the barren landscape like aged serpents, slowly passing forgotten town after forgotten town, crumbling, abandoned industrial infrastructure, derelict, earthen homes and the occasional goldendomed mosque. It's a three-and-a-half hour ride from Lanzhou to Jinchang, the nearest train station to Yongchang, and when I make the journey on a cool afternoon in late September, the train is virtually empty.

From the prefecture-level city of Jinchang, Yongchang town is a 40-minute drive over long stretches of rocky, unpaved road. While more remote places certainly exist within the boundaries of the Middle Kingdom, the area feels about as far away from the comforts and convenience of firsttier cities as one can imagine.

Yongchang, which had a population of around 235,000 in 2010 according to census records, has a long history. The area is set within the Hexi Corridor, formerly a key section of the ancient Northern Silk Road, and human habitation here dates to before the Common Era. It is within the boundaries of Yongchang county that one finds the town of Liqian, the fabled city allegedly founded by Roman survivors of the slaughter at Carrhae.

Ligian, according to Dubs, is the "most ancient Chinese name for Rome," and the name first found its way into the history

books when it appeared on the record of Chinese countries and cities for the year 5 CE. The settlement existed until 746 BCE, when, Dubs writes, "the Tibetans overran that part of China." Inspired by Dubs' research, Australian scholar and author David Harris suggested the town of Zhelaizhai could be the ancient city of Ligian. At the conclusion of the 20th century, Zhelaizhai officially adopted the ancient moniker of Ligian.

It is late in the afternoon when I arrive in Yongchang proper. While wandering the small city's central area, the rumored Roman heritage of the region is on full display. The lampposts running along the city's roads sport plate-sized metal plaques featuring Roman architecture and a helmet-clad legionary, and along the main thoroughfare stands a towering, concrete statue of two Romans flanking a Western Han Dynasty official.

"The statue was built in 1983 or '84," Mr. Zeng, a security guard at the Yongchang Museum, tells me. When I arrive at the small museum, which is located a short stroll from the aforementioned statue, Zeng is the sole person at the site.

At the mention of my research into the county's alleged Roman heritage, Zeng who is eclectically dressed in a suit two sizes too big and a pair of weathered red Nikes becomes visibly excited.

"The locals believe this story about the Romans," he tells me, adding that descendants of ancient Romans still live in the area. Zeng leads me into one of the museum's three exhibition halls, walking me through a small display on the area's Roman roots, the centerpiece of which is a glass-topped box housing skeletal remains. The bones, he claims, are those of an ancient Roman immigrant to the region.

"The locals believe this story about the Romans" 0

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# FROM CARRHAE TO THE EDGE OF THE GOBI

"Outside the wall horsemen gallop about, and more than a hundred foot-soldiers are lined up on either side of the gate in a fish-scale formation"

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n the year 53 BCE, Marcus Licinius Crassus launched an unprovoked invasion of the Parthian Empire, marching an army of 35,000 heavy infantry, 4,000 light infantry and

4,000 cavalry into Upper Mesopotamia.

Crassus was an extraordinarily wealthy politician and, along with Julius Caesar and Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus (otherwise known as Pompey the Great), he was a member of the First Triumvirate, a political alliance established to counter the Roman Senate. Crassus launched war with the Parthians in an effort to further his political aspirations and to earn himself a military reputation in line with that of his partners, Caesar and Pompey.

His grand military ambitions came to a head near the town of Carrhae, close to the presentday settlement of Altınbasak, in southeastern Turkey. On his advance across the barren landscape, Crassus spotted an army of Parthian mounted troops. The commander ordered his troops to execute a large, hollow square formation, with heavy infantry forming the four boundaries of the square and his 4,000 cavalry inside. The battle formation was intended to prevent his army from being flanked by the enemy.

He then commanded his light infantry forward to engage the Parthians, although they were swiftly driven back towards the relative safety of the square by a flurry of arrows fired by 9,000 horse archers.

Parthian forces, which were dreadfully outnumbered by about four to one, then moved on Crassus' square of soldiers, launching arrows at the Roman heavy infantry while maintaining a distance that kept them out of range of Roman

projectiles.

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Crassus dispatched his son, Publius, to lead a charge of 1,500 mounted soldiers to push back the Parthian horse archers. While this tactic initially appeared successful, Publius and his men were baited into an ambush by 1,000 heavily armored mounted troops called cataphracts. The majority of Publius' force were slaughtered in the maneuver and Publius is believed to have killed himself.

What happened next was a bloodbath, with both Parthian mounted archers and cataphracts descending on Crassus and his square formation of soldiers. Arrows rained down on the helpless men, while cataphracts directly engaged the Roman heavy infantry. The slaughter continued until nightfall, when the surviving Romans were able to flee.

The following day, Crassus was summoned to meet with the commander of the Parthian forces, Surena, to negotiate a truce. Crassus was killed during a scuffle that broke out during the assembly and legend has it that molten gold was poured into his mouth by the Parthians to signify the Roman leader's 'thirst for wealth.'

When the dust of war settled, Roman dead totaled 20,000, and 10,000 were captured. While estimates on Parthian losses vary greatly, it is widely accepted that the number of Parthian dead was relatively low. A meager one-fourth of Crassus' army is believed to have escaped to Syria.

The fate of the 10,000 captured Roman troops is a key element of Dubs' lost legion theory. He notes in his book that little is known about what happened to these prisoners, before adding that Pliny (presumably a reference to Pliny the Elder, a Roman author, philosopher

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and naval and army commander) claimed the captives were moved to Margiana "to guard the eastern frontier of Parthia."

Margiana is a historical region that is today part of Afghanistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan; the area was home to the Silk Road oasis of Merv.

There are no records indicating how many of the Parthian's Roman prisoners made it to Margiana. Dubs notes that the distance between the battlefield at Carrhae and Margiana is vast and that captive invaders "would hardly have been treated kind on such a march."

Dubs suggests that some of the Roman survivors of Carrhae did manage the journey to the eastern frontier of Parthia and that the next time they appear in the historical record is on a battlefield facing down soldiers of the Western Han Dynasty.

The Battle of Zhizhi took place in 36 BCE in what is present day Kazakhstan.

The belligerents were the Western Han Dynasty and the chieftain Zhizhi Chanyu of the nomadic Xiongnu, with Chinese troops laying siege to a fortified settlement occupied by Zhizhi and his men. Dubs notes that 100-145 Roman troops who fled Parthia were possibly present at the battle, fighting as mercenaries on behalf of Chief Zhizhi. To offer weight to his claim, Dubs cites an account of the battle by Chinese historian Ban Gu: "Outside the wall horsemen gallop about, and more than a hundred foot-soldiers are lined up on either side of the gate in a fish-scale formation."

'Fish-scale formation' is a historical clue for Dubs, who notes that the term is wholly unique in Chinese literature. He likens the concept of a fish-scale battle formation to that of the famous Roman testudo formation, a defensive tactic in which a legion's members press their shields together in a manner that,

visually speaking, is not unlike that of fish scales.

A Roman City in China also states that Zhizhi's troops made use of a wooden palisade during the battle, something Roman forces frequently utilized "to strengthen their ditches, especially before gates."

This evidence, coupled with the fact Roman troops were (in theory) within walking distance of the site of the conflict, leads the Roman-curious sinologist to conclude that survivors of the Battle of Carrhae were on the field of battle when troops from the Western Han Dynasty laid siege to Zhizhi's fort.

At the conclusion of the confrontation, Dubs surmises that the Roman mercenaries surrendered to the Western Han Dynasty. The ancient foreigners were then settled on the fringes of the empire in a settlement their conquerors gave their name for Rome: Liqian.

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"The people here don't know if they are descended from Romans. It's uncertain"

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ack in Gansu, I arrive at the village of Liqian. The site is now split into two distinct - and vastly different sections: the town itself and the recently built Jinshan Temple. Both sites lie within a couple kilometers of each other, roughly a 25-minute drive from Yongchang county's urban center.

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Jinshan Temple, which was constructed some time in the past decade, according to locals, is where I'm dropped off. As I meander past the toll collector stationed at the gate to the gravel parking lot outside the temple, the man in the booth eyes me curiously, his vivid green eyes and light brown hair immediately set him apart from other parking lot attendants I've seen in China.

Past the decidedly European-looking toll man, I wander into the deserted entrance of the Buddhist temple complex, an area occupied by a bizarre, Colosseum-inspired visitor's center that, among other Roman-esque elements, features 11 large, life-like statues of Roman legionaries.

There's a gift shop, of course, and inside Rome-themed trinkets and faux suits of armor are available for purchase.

Beyond the entrance and through the gate of a large stonewall, Jinshan Temple is anything but traditional by Chinese standards. The grand, column- and dome-clad structure draws serious inspiration from neoclassical architecture, and a sign outside the building states it was designed in the style of a Roman temple - "skillfully combining Buddhist and Roman culture."

It's an interesting spot, but it's hard to

ignore the obvious: Jinshan Temple feels rather gimmicky, an empty Disneyland for Chinese tourists looking to snap a selfie at the alleged convergence point of two ancient powers.

"It's rarely busy here," a barbecue stand attendant tells me on my way out of the temple. "Except on holidays." The middle-aged woman of Hui ethnicity says that she's been living in the old town of Ligian for over 20 years. I head there next

While all roads lead to Rome, only one road leads into modern day Ligian and visitors traveling through must walk past a massive gate - part of a wall erected last year that surrounds most of the village.

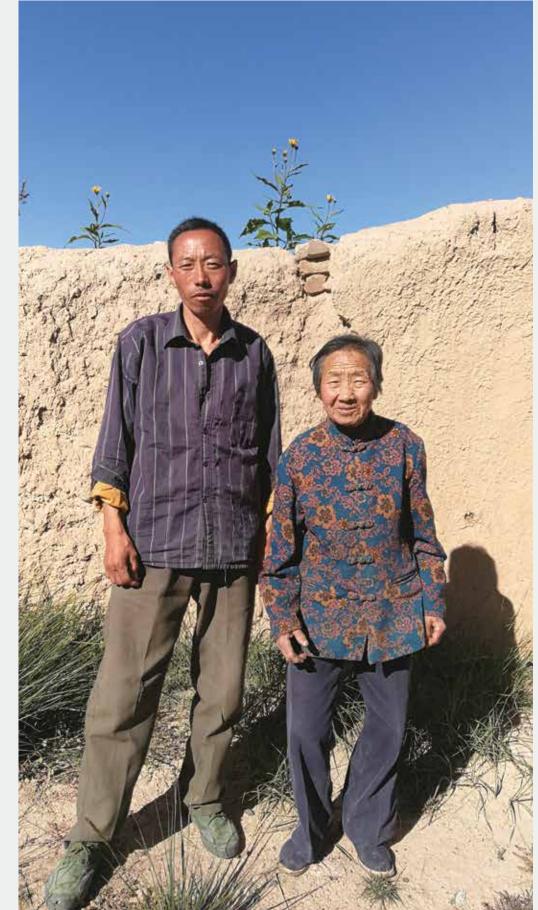
Inside the barrier, Ligian is a ghost town, said for the occasional camel grazing on the yellow-tinged grass that protrudes in patches from the rocky earth.

Earthen walls surround old homes that aren't aging very gracefully. A short walk from the new town gate are the remains of the old city wall; nearby stands a sign declaring the ruins a cultural relic of the county. The sign also states that in the late 1970s, villagers digging near the old wall recovered shards of potterv and Wuzhu coins from the Western Han Dynasty.

"No Roman artifacts have been found here," Yan tells me, echoing what I'd heard from others on my way to the town. The 43-yearold man lives just around the corner from the ancient Ligian wall with his retired parents and works as a cattle rancher.

"The people here don't know if they are descended from Romans," says Yan. "It's uncertain." It's a vague but fair answer. Being situated on the Silk Road, many have passed

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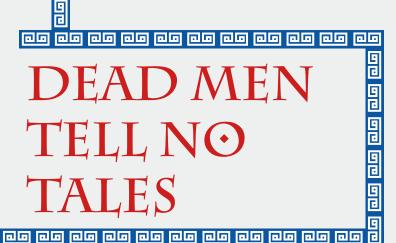
through this area over the past 2,000 years and the prevalence of European features among locals is by no means proof of Dubs' lost legion theory.

I press Yan about the skeleton in the Yongchang Museum and he says he's aware human remains of a "large size" have been found in the area, before adding that he has no idea who they belong to.

Yan is skeptical of the area's alleged Roman heritage, believing that the theory is played up to attract tourists to the sleepy town. Despite his suspicion, he admits "there are people living in the region that look different than your average Chinese person, people with yellow hair and blue eyes."

Before we part ways, Yan encourages me to head to the edge of town. There, he says, is a monument to the town's alleged Roman founders. After a 10-minute stroll, I come to an empty, windswept patch of earth at the edge of a small cliff. At what feels like the end of the world stands a white, Romanesque pavilion, complete with Doric-style columns.

A sign near the monument states that the pavilion was originally built in 1994 – 2,046 years after the Battle of Carrhae.



"The 'foreign' origin of the Yongchang villagers, as proven by the DNA tests, does not necessarily mean they are of ancient Roman origin"

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he idea that a rag-tag
band of survivors from
one of the worst military
defeats in the history of
Rome managed to cross
thousands of kilometers of potentially
hostile land and found a new home in China
is undoubtedly intriguing.

For one, if Roman and Chinese soldiers did cross swords at the Battle of Zhizhi, it would be the only known time in history that the two powers engaged militarily.

Also, if the theory is true, it could mean that citizens of ancient Rome were responsible for founding a settlement that still exists in China to this day.

Unfortunately for the believers, not everyone buys into Dubs' theory.

"In the academic world, that theory is conclusively false," Zhang Defang, a retired researcher with the Gansu Archaeology Institute, tells *That's* Senior Staff Writer Tristin Zhang. "The story is made up by local authorities."

Zhang is not alone in his assessment. In a *China Daily* report published in 2011, Professor Yang Gongle of Beijing Normal University addressed Liqian residents' European features, pointing out that interracial marriages were not uncommon on the old Silk Road, and that light-colored hair, blue eyes and hooked noses are not sufficient proof that the villagers are descended from survivors of the Battle of Carrhae.

"The 'foreign' origin of the Yongchang

villagers, as proven by the DNA tests, does not necessarily mean they are of ancient Roman origin," said Yang.

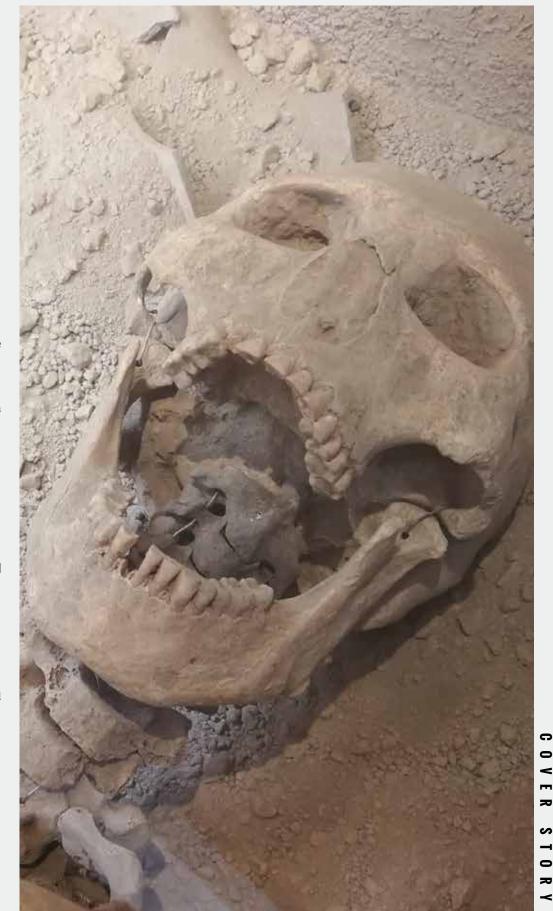
The genetic tests Yang is referring to occurred in 2005, when blood samples were taken from more than 90 Liqian residents. The results of the test revealed that some of the villagers' DNA was up to 56 percent of Caucasian ancestry.

In 2007, a follow-up DNA test yielded results that were far less exciting to believers in the legend of Roman settlers in Liqian: 77 percent of the locals' Y chromosomes were limited to East Asia, according to the *Journal of Human Genetics*.

"The Liqians are closely related to Chinese populations, especially Han Chinese populations, whereas they greatly deviate from Central Asian and Western Eurasian populations," states a *Journal of Human Genetics* article published on the subject back in June of 2007.

According to Song Guorong, though, the results of the 2007 genetic test do not invalidate Dubs' theory. "The Roman Empire covered vast territories, and many soldiers in the legion were mercenaries," he told *China Daily*.

The lack of Roman artifacts found in the region is another major factor that detractors of the theory often point to, although it is prudent to point out that the likelihood of Roman captives being allowed to carry any of their personal belongings with them after surrendering at Carrhae seems extremely low.

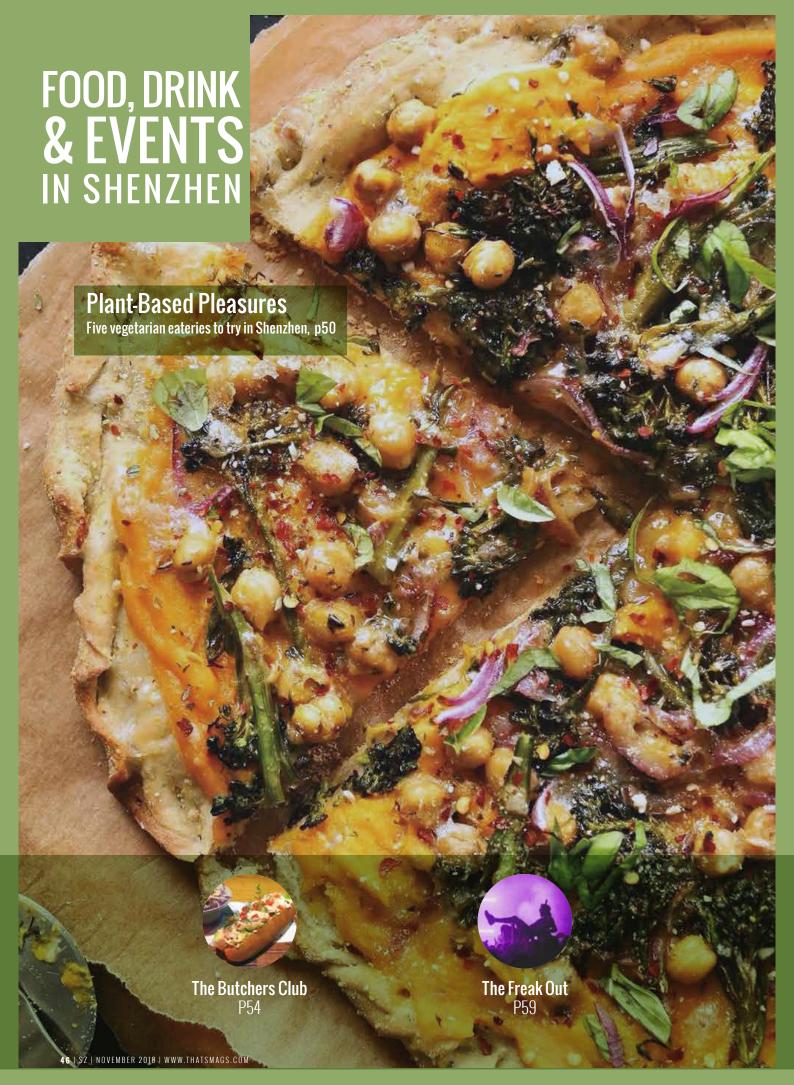


The only real, hard evidence that Romans settled in the area is the skeleton housed in the Yongchang Museum. The remains were discovered back in 2003 in a 2,000-year-old grave, according to the *Economist*, and are of a 1.8-meter-tall male, much larger than the "average Chinese" back then. The height of the ancient man alone seems to be what's led to the conclusion he was a Roman immigrant, with China Daily writing, the "human skeleton [is] believed to belong to a Roman soldier because it is 1.8 meters tall."

While disagreement is widespread on Dub's theory, scientific consensus seems to have labeled A Roman City in China a myth, with the physical traits of Liqian's inhabitants easily attributed to Silk Road commerce and travel, and the lack of hard evidence being a major sticking point.

One thing everyone does seem to agree on, though, is that the theory has introduced tourism to the remote region.

"The name change," Zeng, an ardent believer in Dubs' theory, tells me, "that was to attract tourists."



# PRAIRIE BOMB SPICY STOUT

**Guinness Drinkers Beware!** 

By Bryan Grogan

Spice is just part of the package when living in China. Everywhere you go, you'll see Lao Gan Ma's benevolent face beaming at you, seemingly suggesting that you amp-up that Snickers bar you just bought with a touch of her zesty paste.



Thile we've adapted to, and even embraced, the spiciness of various Chinese regional cuisines, dishes and dips, we have to admit we were a bit perplexed last month when we came across a 'spicy stout' while browsing Taobao.

The beer, brewed in Hong Kong by Moonzen Brewery, is called Prairie Bomb, and is crafted using cacao nuts, vanilla extract and, you guessed it, chili flakes.

Forever curious, we ordered a couple of bottles of Prairie Bomb. When the beverages arrived at our office, we were surprised to find that the beer boasts an astounding 13 percent ABV, enough, we thought, to quickly unshackle the doors of inebriation and banish sobriety for a couple of hours.

We cracked open the bottles and poured the brown, boozy elixir into plastic cups (for sharing, of course). Aesthetically, Prairie Bomb is by no means a pleasing sight. One member of our editorial team commented that the imperial stout looked more like soy sauce than anything else, while another suffered some unfortunate flashbacks of gruesome childhood cough syrup experiences.

Our first sip was, and we are not exaggerating, a combined explosion of both taste and mouthfeel. Being Guinness drinkers, we were not particularly ready for the carbonated liquid that met our tongues, and when combined with the whole range of flavors that we listed above, we had to take a moment to steady ourselves.

Ensuing sips summoned a very wide variety of reactions. Chocolate was mentioned at one point and coffee had more than its fair share of airtime. We even had one very peculiar reference to a rare, old tonic wine called Buckfast, a comparison attributed to the fragrant, herbal-y aftertaste that the brew leaves on the palate.

While that initial sip may have been worth a week of waiting for the Taobao

man to arrive, the mouthfuls that followed were less and less enjoyable.

We would undoubtedly recommend that our beer-loving readers try this drink, or something similar, but mainly to experience what we feel is one of the strangest tasting stouts out there. Combining such a wide range of reference points, from herbal spirits, to tonic wine, to stout and back again, this drink is a true Frankenstein's monster.

Prarie Bomb is available on Taobao at RMB125 per bottle.

# GRAPE VINE

THE SCANDALOUS SCOOP

## We're Digging:



the growing wealth of vegan and vegetarian restaurants around Shenzhen (page 50); new cocktail bar and jazz club **Zazoo**, which opened in Shopping Park last month to great fanfare; **Voisin Organique**'s new fall menu; and festive food season kicking into top gear after Halloween. Anyone else counting the days until you can savor some Christmas turkey?

## We're Done with:



the quick and unexpected demise of electronic music club **Hangover**; **Enigma Bar & Grill**'s name change (formerly Taco Patio) and their new menu which sees them move away from Mexican food in favor of Asian fare; **Pulse Cafe** closing their doors at the end of October, although ownership are actively seeking a new location in which to set up shop; and finally, ordering food via QR code. Is it just us, or does it actually take longer to peruse the tiny electronic menu that restaurant proprietors are now promoting?



Beijing Restaurant brings authentic cuisine from China's capital all the way down to the dirty South and has been in business for more than 30 years in Shekou. If that doesn't sound prestigious enough, take a look at the outlet's description on Meituan, and you'll see that it was once visited by none other than Deng Xiaoping.

As an establishment specializing in cuisine from Beijing, it's only natural that roasted duck makes an appearance on the menu. The eatery's signature roasted duck (RMB198) is made with birds specially bred in Beijing and cooked for about an hour in a traditional fruitwood-heated oven.

When served, the duck is brought to the table in one piece and sliced right before your eyes by the chef. Once the meat is stripped from the carcass, you'll be given the option of having the bird's remains made into a soup for RMB12: do it, you'll need it for when the grease kicks in.

Enjoy the duck meat the ol' fashioned way, by wrapping it with cucumber and green onion inside a steamed pancake and dipping the Beijing-style wrap in plum sauce. The taste is both smoky and refreshing, while the mouthfeel ranges from oily to crispy.

If the duck doesn't float your boat, browse Beijing Restaurant's extensive menu (no English translations, but images are provided), which features such classics as kung pao chicken, as well as pig intestines (yum!) and an array of North-style cakes and snacks.

In addition to the main dining hall, patrons looking for a more intimate dining experience can enjoy the establishment's private booths. We, though, recommend taking in the sights and sounds of the main dining area. After all, it's the jovial Beijing atmosphere (together with Beijing cuisine) that you are here for, innit?

Price: RMB150 Nearest metro: Shuiwan Station (Exit D)

185, Shangle Jie, Shekou, Nanshan District 南山区蛇 口商乐街185号





## Dazhanggui Liangpi & Roujiamo

We at *That's* are unrepentant fans of cuisine from North China. Two of our favorite dishes under that admittedly large umbrella hail from Shaanxi: liangpi and roujiamo.

China's answer to the West's world-famous hamburger, roujiamo is, simply put, a bun stuffed with beef or pork. In 2016, the dish was listed in the fifth batch of intangible cultural heritage items of Shaanxi

For folks in Guangzhou and Shenzhen, we want to tip you off to one of our favorite waimai options for roujiamo: Dazhanggui Liangpi & Rouiiamo.

The chain's 'Chinese hamburgers' boast crispy buns packed with a blend of lean and fatty pork belly, which

is stewed for hours in a seasoning-laden broth. If you're craving some heat, we encourage you to order the spicy rouiiamo, which comes with the addition of fresh chilies.

If you're a veggiesaurus, skip the roujiamo and try out the restaurant's other house favorite: liangpi (literally meaning 'cold noodles'). Translucent noodles within a flavorful sauce, liangpi is another Shaanxi delicacy that you don't want to miss out on!

Price: RMB10 Good for: Chinese hamburgers, cold noodles

Search for: 大掌柜凉皮肉夹 馍 (Da zhang gui liang pi rou

Available on: Meituan, Baidu Waimai and Ele.me



# PLANT-BASED PLEASURES

FIVE VEGETARIAN EATERIES TO TRY IN SHENZHEN

By Bryan Grogan

This month we set out to explore Shenzhen's small - albeit thriving - community of restaurants specializing in vegetarian and vegan fare. Here, we introduce you to five of our favorite spots to chow down on delicious, plant-based edibles.

## Delish

The proprietors of Delish are no strangers to Shenzhen's herbivore crowd: they previously operated Green Room, a vegan outlet that closed in 2016. The only 100-percent-vegan takeout spot in the city (to our knowledge, anyway), Delish has a sterling reputation amongst vegan and vegetarian communities for their unique, one-of-akind dishes, such as the vegan Big Mac and egg-and-milk-free donuts. While some may criticize that the business only deals in take-away options, the proprietor did tell us they have given thought to expanding into a physical space, but with rent prices in the city showing no sign of declining, it seems that the right time has yet to come.

Delivery only. Order via WeChat ID 'mee-hao.'





## Dzambala Vegetarian Restaurant

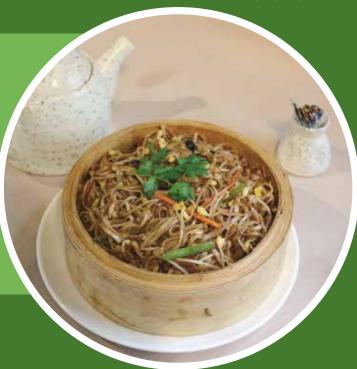
Situated in the trendy environs of OCT East, in the shadow of B10 and OCT-Loft, Dzambala seems to be a very well-kept secret. Despite serving up some fantastic plant-based food, it remains relatively quiet compared to other shops in OCT East Market. Stylistically, the place leaves a little to be desired, but one can forsake a design-forward space as long as the food is good. And it is good. While sashimi seems to be the outlet's most prized menu item, you can also find a list of awe-some plant-based dishes that fit firmly within the realm of Chinese cuisine. If you are in the neighborhood, certainly make a point of stopping in for a quick bite!

Shop 302, Overseas Chinese Town East Market, Nanshan District 南山区华侨城东 部市场三楼302号 (8217 0169)

## Yunlaiju

This Yunnan-style vegetarian restaurant (with plenty of vegan options) has five locations dotted around Shenzhen's Futian, Nanshan and Luohu districts. Despite the lack of animal flesh, we found that Yunlaiju's fare still maintains a lot of the hallmark qualities that make Chinese cuisine so flipping great. We visited the chain's Honey Park location, where we sampled the *meiwei xiaochao* (RMB68), which literally translates to 'beautiful flavor fry' (it certainly was, we might add). Comprised of sweetcorn, walnuts, asparagus, peppers and carrots, this dish was a feast of nutrients that led a parade of sweet, spicy and sour flavors over our buoyant tongues.

Behind Shanghai Volkswagen dealership, Holiday Village, Honey Lake, Futian District 福田区香蜜湖度假村内上海大众汽车专买店后 (8289 4181)



## New Plum Garden Yuantong Vegetarian (Xinmeiyuan)

Billed as a vegetarian hotpot outlet, this restaurant is so much more. For starters, in addition to a dining area, the establishment also hosts a large shop that sells soup ingredients, spices, beans and other foodstuffs. You can also pick up some new threads and accessories, as the store stocks Buddhist clothing and trinkets. New Plum's kitchen juts out into the dining area, canteen-style, and you can watch chefs slicing 'n' dicing while your soup boils away in front of you.

1/F, Anxuan Building B, Tairan Jiu Lu, Chegongmiao, Shennan Dadao, Futian District 福田区深南大道车公庙泰然九路安轩B座首层

## **Summer Tea House**

Everywhere we looked, this name kept popping up. We visited late in the evening just before this tea shop/veggie restaurant closed for the night and were delighted by what we found. On the seventh floor of the Jintang Building, this secluded outlet is a veritable oasis, hidden above the narrow streets of old Luohu. We were immediately blown away by the silence and the pacific charm of this rustic restaurant. On the menu, you'll find some novel fruit-based soups and snacks, as well as vegan Southeast Asian fare, namely Thai and Vietnamese food.

7/F, Jintang Building, 3038 Bao'an Nan Lu, Luohu District 罗湖区宝安南路 3038号金塘大厦7楼 (2557 4555)



INDIAN SPICE

## Burns So Bad, It Tastes So Good

By Bryan Grogan

### The Place

We absolutely love a good Indian feast here at *That's PRD* and when we heard about the arrival of Indian Spice at Poly Cultural Square, we were beyond delighted. We dropped in on a Thursday evening and found the place to be a hive of activity. The proprietor, Vincent Fernandes, was buzzing about the room, carrying on two and three conversations at once. Formerly in the trading business, Vincent certainly retains an air of attentiveness and an eye for detail, something which is reflected in the food and the service at Indian Spice.

While he previously ran Indian Cottage, another restaurant based out of Poly Cultural Square, he took the risk of taking over Little India some months ago. Originally operating under that well-known moniker, the restaurant has been undergoing some flux of late, with new staff, a new name and an evolving menu. We wanted to see what all the hype was about.

### The Food

Upon perusing the menu for the first time, we were delighted to catch sight of the immeasurably spicy and delicious chicken *vindaloo* (RMB60). Originating in Goa, this dish has burnt the taste buds off generations of folks from all over the world.

Before we dared attack the vindaloo, however, we asked for a plate of lamb samosas (RMB38) to whet our appetites.

The meat-filled pastries arrived with a thick shell, crisp and delicately salty, while the innards (lamb, peas and assorted spices) had a delicious, sour taste. We scoffed the two samosas down in little to no time.

The chicken *vindaloo* arrived in a small, metal bowl. Despite its slight size, we decided it was best not to underestimate this gleaming, scarlet curry, and called for a plate of olive naan bread (RMB25) for dipping.

The fiery stew housed tender, cooked-toperfection morsels of chicken and was simply too good for a quick chew and swallow: this is a curry made for savoring.

The lamb *shahi korma* (RMB72) arrived next and was the perfect compliment for the spicy *vindaloo*, allowing us to temper the burning sensation with the *korma*'s nutty,



creamy flavors. The lamb, exactly like the chicken before it, was tender, having presumably been cooked in the *korma*'s thick sauce for just the right amount of time.

Our last dish of the evening was the *hariyali* chicken (RMB65), which presented a medley of flavors: sweet, sour and salty, with pickle-ish undertones.



## The Vibe

A chorus of chitchat, clanking knives and forks and smacking lips (presumably gasping for air after a bite of *vindaloo*) give this space a casual vibe and welcoming atmosphere.

Price: RMB75-175

Who's going: traders, hungry shoppers, the post-work crowd

**Good for:** quality Indian cuisine, a friendly atmosphere

Nearest metro: Houhai (Exit E), 1 minute

Tue 11am-10.30pm, Wed-Mon 11.30am-10.30pm; A2-56, Food Street, Poly Culture Square, Wenxin Liu Lu, Coastal City, Nanshan District 南山 区海岸城文心六路保利广场美食街A2-56 (131 3818 05.43)



Brunch'n at the Beach

By Matthew Bossons

## The Place

Located on the second floor of the Sheraton Dameisha Resort, in Yantian District, Capri spoils diners with amazing floor-to-ceiling windows that deliver an unrivaled view of the azure waters of Dameisha Bay. In addition to screensaver-worthy scenery, Capri also offers diners one of our favorite Sunday brunch specials in the city: an all-you-can-eat (and drink!) seafood bonanza for under RMB500.

#### The Food

On our visit, we head directly for Capri's sushi booth, where a variety of rolls, nigiri and sashimi are on offer. The onsite sushi chef diligently mans the station, chopping fresh salmon, tuna and sea bream into elegant slices upon request.

From the sushi post, we move to the on-ice seafood spread, which hosts prawns, freshly shucked oysters, scallops and, the *coup de gras*, Alaskan king crab.

Add a spoonful of freshly prepared sea urchin fried rice to your plate and the seafood medley is complete.

No mound of marine creatures, though, can truly be enjoyed to the fullest without a cold glass of white wine. True to form, Capri's buffet has a beverage station that offers both red and white wine, as well as beer, soft drinks and juice.

Aside from seafood, buffet visitors can also enjoy classic Chinese eats, including Peking duck, dim sum varieties and noodle soup, which is prepared to order at a dedicated noodle station.

Westerners looking for a taste of home will relish in the succulent cuts of lamb and beef that are served at Capri's 'Sunday roast' station. And, like all good buffets, a selection of fine cheeses, breads and pastries are also available.

#### The Vibe

Unlike most five-star hotel buffets we frequent, Capri does not rely on a premade soundtrack to set the tone. Instead, patrons enjoy live music provided by a band of talented musicians hailing from the beautiful South American nation of Colombia. Perhaps one of the best perks of brunch at Sheraton Dameisha Resort is all-day access to the hotel's pristine beachfront and elegant swimming pools.

BRUNCH REVIEW | EAT & DRINK

Price: RMB464 (includes beer/soft drinks) Who's going: beach-bound Shenzheners, brunchers

**Good for:** boozing, midday meals, stuffing your face full of seafood

Sun, ongoing, 11.30am-3pm; RMB464 per person; 9 Yankui Lu, Dameisha, Yantian District 盐田区大梅沙盐葵路9号 (8888 6688 ext. 3841)



## THE BUTCHERS CLUB

## Dry-Aged Delight

By Jonathan Zhong



## The Place

Nestled at the foot of the futuristic Ping An International Finance Center, the Butchers Club has a prime location right in the heart of Futian District. Turn left after leaving Exit D of the Shopping Parking Metro Station on Line 1 and you will see the restaurant's red and yellow exterior.

The area around Shopping Park is packed with an array of burger joints, so you may rightly ask what makes the Butchers Club stand out from the rest. Well, we here at That's PRD have to say it's the dry-aged beef, in which the restaurant takes great pride.

#### The Food

We didn't immediately try the beef, though our first pick was the lobster sub (RMB198). And boy, were we excited when it arrived at our table. Comprised of a hotdog bun stuffed with lobster meat, the 'sub' is made using all the various edible bits of a Boston lobster and cooked the classic way. Adorned with dill and tomato and covered with salad dressing. it tastes just as good as it looks.

Next, we tried a classic dry-aged beef burger (RMB90), which comes with tomatoes, pickles, bacon, cheese and a generous hunk of beef. Drizzled with juice, the beef inside this hearty burger comes from three different parts of the cow, making the patty moist and flavorful while also maintaining a rich texture. The burger's bun also deserves a nod, with the inside of the bread coated with a layer of garlic butter.

There's also the 'leviathan-sized' version: the double happiness dry-aged beef burger (RMB168), which is double the size of the

After shoving down all three of these meaty mains (yep, we also ordered the double happiness dry-aged beef burger), we figured it was time to wet the ol' whistle. Two categories of beverages are on offer at the Butchers Club: juice and smoothies. We opted for the green juice





(RMB38-46) and an ABC juice with fresh ginger (RMB32-40).

After sucking back both drinks, we tucked into our final dish of the day: the Australian grass-fed steak (RMB248), which came with black pepper sauce, mustard mayo, grilled vegetables and truffle fries. A superior cut of cow, this steak is among the finest we've tried in Shenzhen.

## The Vibe

Visit the Butchers Club during off-hours and you'll enjoy a relaxed, quiet atmosphere. Despite its name, the Butchers Club is not staffed by blood-covered, knife-wielding madmen, but by a crew of friendly, welcoming meat lovers that will make you feel right at home!

Price: RMB150-250

Who's going: Bostonians, beef lovers, carnivorous folk in general

Good for: burgers, dry-aged beef, substantial portions of meat

Nearest metro: Shopping Park (Exit D), 2 minutes

Open daily, 9am-11pm; B101A, PAFC Mall, Ping An Finance Center, 5033 Yitian Lu, Futian District 福田区 益田路5033号平安金融中心B1下沉式广场B101A商铺



## TRISTAN'S CALMEX

Burritos and Beers and Bros, Oh My!

By Bryan Grogan

## The Place

Shenzhen has no lack of Mexican restaurants. What it did indeed lack. though, is a friendly, comfortable Cal-Mex shop with tasty burritos, tacos and more. Tristan's CalMex is set up to fill that niche. Tucked away in the vibrant side-streets of old Shekou, Tristan's is adorned in purple, orange, gold and yellow, with the intent, it seems, to remind visitors of the deserted landscapes that stretch across northern Mexico and the southwestern United States.

In many ways this is the perfect way to describe the atmosphere that our proprietor, Tristan Sapp, is trying to achieve. Not only does he mesh Mexican and American culture, but the inviting atmosphere of his establishments (not just in Shenzhen, but also in Guangzhou) hints at the fact that the bearded kitchen whizz is trying to bridge borders here, in the South of China and what better way to gather people together than with some awesome food.

### The Food

Although the restaurant was in a soft opening phase when we visited, meaning that Sapp was the only cook in the kitchen, we got our food quickly. Deciding to try about as much as we could fit in our stomachs, we ordered a beef burrito (RMB60), Tristan's Mexican sausage tacos (RMB35) and the chicken quesadillas (RMB40).

But before being served our food, we were presented with a bowl of what was possibly the best popcorn we've tasted in China. The secret ingredient: garlic salt, which added a sharp



shot of flavor. Before we could gobble down much more of the corn snack, our food arrived.

We tucked into the tacos first and were immediately blown away by the salty, tangy, delicious sausage utilized in the dish. Imported from Italy, Sapp unwraps and then re-cooks his Mexican sausage, adding his own blend of spices to create a highly stimulating piece of meat.

The chicken quesadillas arrived soft and juicy, so juicy, in fact, that after one bite we were splattered by a healthy dose of cheese and salsa, ruining our favorite shorts. No matter the mess, we forged ahead because the food was just that good. The quesadillas came topped with fruity salsa, but what was missing was a bit of spice. We took some of the habanero sauce that came with our meal and slathered it along the top of the quesadilla before taking another bite. Et voila, perfect.

Finally, we moved on to the beef burrito, which sat snug in the middle of our table. Feeling adventurous, we picked up the big loaf of rice, beans and guacamole and took a few careful bites. The savory meat mixed well with the creamy, buttery flavor of the guac. Feeling, however, that the whole thing might fall to pieces at by placing the burrito back on its plate and cutting it open with a fork and knife.

After engorging ourselves on a fantastic meal, we were loathe to say goodbye, not least because movement was a struggle.

## The Vibe

Despite, as we mentioned above, being in its soft opening stage, Tristan's filled up quickly with families out for a communal feast. That is not to say that Tristan's doesn't have the air of secrecy about it - those in the know, know, you know? As with his Guangzhou establishment,

Sapp has set up shop away from the promenades and the shopping malls, giving this lovely Cal-Mex shop a sense of being truly genuine.

Price: RMB50-150 Who's going: taco Tuesday fans, burrito bros Good for: Mexican-esque food

and beers, popcorn, a different kind of spice Nearest metro: Shuiwan (Exit

C), 15 minutes

Open daily, 5pm-11am (reduced hours during soft opening, call restaurant for more info); Shop 131, Haiyun Jiayun West Building, 1088 Wanghai Lu, Nanshan District 南山区望海路1088号海 韵嘉园裙楼西131铺 (133 9243 1213)



## LIFE ON MARS

## Out of this World

By Jonathan Zhong





ike David Bowie, you may sometimes wonder: is there life on Mars? Well, we don't know for sure, but we do know that there is a Life on Mars cocktail bar in Shenzhen.

We ventured into OCT
Loft in search of this bar on a
Friday evening. It was just days
after Typhoon Mangkhut and
signs of the destruction could
still be seen here and there.
Destructive as the typhoon was,
it had not blown away the bar
staff's hospitality.

Upon approaching the bar's midnight-blue framed door, we were greeted by one very welcoming bartender, and through the glass behind him we could see the bar's counter against the dim yet warm coppery light. On one side of the counter sat the bar's owner, Ross Woodford, looking all geared-up for another busy night – or for him, another cozy night, rather.

After a firm handshake, Woodford introduced us to the menus: one set menu and one seasonal menu. The set menu, which consists of a wide variety of alcoholic beverages ranging from fruity and floral to refreshing drinks to hard liquors such as whiskey, rum, mezcal and gin, amongst others, was quite the eyecatcher with its artistically designed metal cover. The seasonal menu, while only containing one page, is updated every few weeks with newly crafted drinks.

We began our visit by sampling the so-called 'crowd pleaser' Lavender Lady (RMB98): a mix of Beefeater gin, lavender, peach, kaffir lime leaf, lemon and egg white. The concoction was refreshing, with a mild, fruity-sour flavor. On top of it all was a layer of creamy egg white that exuded a pleasant lavender aroma, perfect for relaxing the mind after a long and busy day.

As we sipped our Lavender Lady, Woodford, who left his hometown of York in the UK to first venture to Australia and now China, told us that one of the core ideas at Life on Mars is to always stay adventurous. This is reflected not only in their constantly changing seasonal menu, but also in the vibe of the bar.

Although Woodford is British, he feels that he is generally more relaxed and less formal than his compatriots. This attitude informs the way he wants his bar to be: social, cozy and relaxing. That's why you might find the staff here to be more than just bar staff but friends who like to reach out to the customers sitting before them and engage them in fun, little chats. And, as friends, mini lockers are available for customers to store unfinished bottles so they can enjoy them the next time they stop by.

We finished our visit to Life on Mars with the 'Mezzed My Berries Off' (RMB118) - the bar's bestselling mix. In this case, it was not the aroma but the appearance of the drink that first arrested our attention. Colored a shade of ruby, thanks to the raspberry puree, the drink unleashed a chain reaction of flavors when it hit our palate: the bitter orange was met with the sweet and sour flavor of raspberries, and just before you feel like you've had enough, the mezcal kicks in and completes the taste, prompting you to go in for another sip.

Price: RMB90-120

**Who's going:** cocktail enthusiasts, socialites, laid-back drinkers

**Good for:** unique and customized cocktails, cozy chats, great

**Nearest metro:** Qiaochengbei (Exit C), 10 minutes

Open daily, 6pm-2am; Unit 103, 1/F, A1 Building, Oct Loft, Nanshan District 南山区华侨城创意园北园A1栋首层103 号店铺









# Pulse

## Kawa Reggae



Known as China's first-ever reggae band, anytime Kawa comes to town is a celebration. This time, the group will channel a little bit more of their Southwestern folk music, alongside reggae of course, as they take in 16 dates on their way back to Yunnan.

Thu Nov 15, 8.30pm; RMB80 presale, RMB100 at the door. B10 Live, North side of Building C2, North Area, OCT-Loft, Xiangshan Dong Jie, Nanshan District 南山区香山东街 华侨城创意文化园北区C2栋北侧 (showstart.com)

We're giving away tickets for these featured B10 Live concerts! Message our official WeChat account (**ThatsShenzhen**) three days before the show and tell us why you should win!

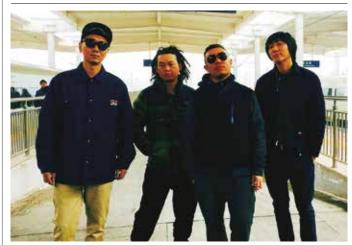
## Jay-Jay Johanson Trip Hop



Swedish singer-songwriter Jay-Jay Johanson has quite the musical background. While ostensibly a melancholic singer-songwriter, Johanson has also contributed in part to energetic electronica band The Knife's 'Marble House.' He has made extensive use of trip-hop and multiple electronic elements in his career, making him somewhat of a curiosity.

Mon Nov 25, 8.30pm; RMB150 presale. B10 Live, North side of Building C2, North Area, OCT-Loft, Xiangshan Dong Jie, Nanshan District 南山区香山东街华侨城创意文化园北区 C2栋北侧 (showstart.com)

## **Sparrow** Post Rock



Instrumental band Sparrow return to Guangdong with their latest release, Temple Rain Lianzhu. The band position themselves as a throwback in this era of electronic and hip hop music but make no mistake, their emotional, soaring guitar lines will run you ragged in a way that a lot of modern music cannot. Sat Nov 24, 9pm; RMB100 presale, RMB120 at the door. B10 Live, North side of Building C2, North Area, OCT-Loft, Xiangshan Dong Jie, Nanshan District 南山区香山东街华侨城创意文 化园北区C2栋北侧 (showstart.com)

## Wang Wen Post Rock



We have said it many times before, but Dalian's Wang Wen are one of the hardest, if not the hardest, working bands at the moment. Back on tour with their brand-spankin'-new album, The Invisible City, catch their ethereal sound as it fills the rafters at B10 Live this month.

Mon Nov 26, 8.30pm; RMB120 presale, RMB150 at the door. B10 Live, North side of Building C2, North Area, OCT-Loft, Xiangshan Dong Jie, Nanshan District 南山区香山东街华侨城创意 文化园北区C2栋北侧 (showstart.com)



# Pulse

## Oil Club 1st Anniversary Electronic



Starting late and ending late, this celebration of one of South China's best electronic music venues brings together a number of awesome performers, including Tayta, 3asic and Fractal Fantasy, to name a few. Be sure not to miss this one

Sat Nov 3, 9pm; RMB60 presale, RMB80 at the door. Oil Club, 11A, 1/F, Tairan Building, Tairan Ba Lu, Futian District 福田区泰然八路泰然大厦01层L1-11A (186 1715 0566)

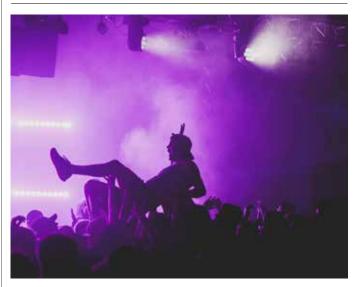
## ● 百百 Endless White Shoegaze



Shoegaze and dream-pop outfit 白百Endless White go out on tour this month, making their way to Brown Sugar Jar in Futian to perform alongside local indie band Mott on November 3. In support of their awesome debut studio album, Flow West to You, this is a chance to catch one of China's very best young indie bands at the minute.

Sat Nov 3, 8.30pm; RMB60 student, RMB70 presale, RMB90 at the door. Brown Sugar Jar Public House, 1031 Shangbu Nan Lu, Futian District 福田区上步南路1031号 (showstart. com, 189 3867 9176)

## BUDX Freak Out Rave



Billed as the wildest and largest of China's annual Halloween Warehouse Rave Tours, BUDX Freak Out makes its way to Shenzhen this November for what's expected to be an evening of scary, boozy, debauched fun. Make your way to Tom Live to get in on the antics.

Sat Nov 3, 9pm; RMB240 presale, RMB300 at the door. Tom Live, Building 1, Huangguan Science Park, Tairanjiu Road, Futian District 福田区车公庙泰然九路皇冠科技园1栋

#### Mary See the Future Indie Rock



Taiwanese indie band Mary See the Future have a sterling reputation on the mainland after putting out great albums like *My Fake True Love* and *Yes, I Am*. Despite the fact that they haven't released anything in a while, it is a joy to see them return to the mainland for what should be a great tour.

Fri Nov 30, 8.30pm; RMB100 presale, RMB120 at the door. Hou Live, B112A, KK ONE Shopping Center, 9289 Binhe Dadao, Futian District 福田区滨河大道9289号KK ONE购物中心负一层B112A (showstart. com)

## **Stag Fest 2018** Music Festival



Featuring a number of local indie bands, including Thin City, Mott and Ireland's own Tir Na gCasta, this mini-festival takes place at British pub The Stag. While Dameisha Beach may be closed this winter, this event is the next best reason to visit Yantian District.

Sat-Sun Dec 1-2, 8.30pm; RMB180 early bird (includes room). The Stag Pub, No. 228, Dameisha Village, Songcai Dao Xi, Dameisha, Yantian District (Next to Hi Run Da Hotel) 盐田区大梅沙宋彩道西大梅沙村228号海润达酒店旁 (134 2444 1418)



# Pulse

#### The Sound of Music



More fantastic family-friendly entertainment here, as *The Sound of Music* gets a Chinese makeover. Watch Maria and her children frolic on specially constructed sets, built to recreate the majesty of the expansive Swiss Alps.

Fri Nov 2, 7.30pm; RMB100-880. Shenzhen Poly Theatre, Baoli Culture Square, Houhaibin Lu, Nanshan District 南山区后海滨路保利文化广场保利剧院(damai.cn, 8637 1687)

#### \_\_\_\_\_



Riverdance II

Irish dancing has taken the world by storm since Michael Flatley and his gang of beautifully attired colleagues first took to the stage in 1995. While this may look like tap-dancing, it's far from it. Combining traditional Irish music and stunning footwork, this awe-inspiring show will leave you breathless.

Fri-Sat Nov 2-3, 8pm; RMB100-1080. Shenzhen Grand Theater, 5018 Shennan Dong Lu, Luohu District 罗湖区深南东路 5018号 (damai.cn, 2590 6000)

## Now You See Me Magic



Based on the movie series of the same name starring Jesse Eisenberg and Woody Harrelson, this magic show employs cutting edge technology to pull off tricks that have never been seen before. With four very talented magicians on hand to keep you entertained, this show is sure to be a spectacle.

Sat Nov 24, 3pm, 8pm. RMB280-580. Shenzhen Bay Sports Center, 3001 Binhai Dadao, Nanshan District 南山区滨海大道 3001号 (247tickets.com, 8630 8888)

### Chen Peisi's Old House Comedy



Renowned Chinese comedic actor Chen Peisi brings one of his best known performances, *Old House*, to Shenzhen Poly Theatre. A suspenseful story colored with comedy, Chen's 2009 humorous work has been counted by many as a challenge for both spectators and actors alike.

Fri Nov 2, 7.30pm; RMB100-880. Shenzhen Poly Theatre, Baoli Culture Square, Houhaibin Lu, Nanshan District 南山区后海滨路保利文化广场保利剧院 (damai.cn, 8637 1687)

## Sense and Sensibility Play



Revisit the Jane Austen classic this November as Chapterhouse Theatre Company make their way to Shenzhen Children's Palace. This story follows the three Dashwood sisters as they come of age. Follow the three girls as they experience love, romance and heartbreak for the first time.

Sun Nov 11, 7.30pm. RMB80-360. Shenzhen Children's Palace, 2002 Fuzhong Yi Lu, Futian District 福田区福中 —路2002号 (247tickets.com, 8351 3099)

### Disney on Ice



Catch all of your favorite Disney characters on ice this month as the celebrated family-friendly show *Disney on Ice* comes to town. Combining world-class ice skating and heartwarming Disney stories, this is a great one for the little ones.

Sat-Sun Dec 1-2, Sat 3pm/7.30pm, Sun 10.30am/3pm. RMB120-380. Shenzhen Bay Sports Center, 3001 Binhai Dadao, Nanshan District 南山区滨海大道3001号 (247tickets.com, 8630 8888)





### 7th Shenzhen Health & Wellness Fair



The Shenzhen Health & Wellness Fair provides a break from regular temptations, with a chance to immerse yourself in a day-long spree of trying and experiencing wholesome practices. Upon arrival, guests are greeted with free goody bags at the registration desk. Attendance at all demos, activities and talks are also all free, while some vendors will facilitate free offerings such as 10-minute massages.

Sat Nov 3, 10am - 4pm. Free. Vista-SK International Medical Center, Level 4, Building 4C, Shenzhen Software Industry Base, Xuefu Lu, Nanshan District 南山区学府路软件产业基地 4栋C座裙楼4层 (0755 3689 9688)

#### Bionic Brew Craft Beer Festival



Bionic Brew presents the 4th Shenzhen Craft Beer Festival, also known as the Electric City Festival, this month on the 9th, 10th and 11th at Halo Square, north of Grand craft offerings. If you classify yourself as a craft beer fanatic, you do not want to miss this event! Fri-Sun Nov 9-11, 6pm. RMB80-120. Halo

Theater in downtown Shenzhen. The annual event invites breweries from around China to showcase their best

Square, 84 Liyuan Lu (by Taoyuan Lu) Luohu District 罗湖区梨园路84号Halo广 场 (6666 8888)

### Beaujolais Nouveau 2018



It's Beaujolais Nouveau season once more, and the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Canton, in partnership with the General Consulate of France in Canton, is going to celebrate the arrival of this year's batch with a fun celebration. Meet new friends and show off your French- and Chinese-language skills while quaffing glasses of delightful ruby-red wine.

Fri Nov 16, 7pm-11pm. RMB300-450. Shenzhen Luohu Shangri-La Hotel, 1002 Jianshe Lu, Luohu District 罗湖区建设路 1002号 (8233 0888, 134 2553 7323)

## FAI Drone Racing Championships



More than 130 pilots from 30 countries will converge on Longgang for the first-ever FAI World Drone Racing Championships. Put on by the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale, this event sounds like a cracking day out for tech-enthusiasts, drone pilots and curious folk alike.

Thu-Sun Nov 1-4, 10.30am/3pm. RMB680. Universiade Sports Center 3001 Longxiang Dadao, Longgang District 龙岗区龙翔大道3001号 (8998 0111, 247 tickets)

## 2018 CICC Guangdong Go-



Grab your boots and go karting (see what we did there?) on November 3, as the CICC Guangdong Go-Kart Cup returns to Shenzhen for what should be a rip-roaring day of fun. You can choose to be either a spectator or a participant in the races, so why not head out to Bao'an District for a great day organized by the China-Italy Chamber of Commerce.

Sat Nov 3, 10am-5pm. RMB550-700 racers, RMB200 spectators. Xtreme Speedway Go-Karting, Huangpu Shang Nan Dong Lu, Bao'an District 宝安区黄埔上南东路 (2989 7388)

## The 7th Annual Shenzhen International Chess Open **Tournament**



We here at That's do love a good game of chess, and the underappreciated board/mental stamina game will be on show during the 7th Annual Shenzhen International Chess Open. Drop by to test your skills against some of the best players in the city this November.

Sat Nov 24, 8am-5.30pm; free. Central Book City, 2014 Fuzhong Yi Lu (by Pengcheng San Lu), Futian District 福田区福中一路 2014号中心书城 (2399 2012)

# HONG KONG & MACAU CALENDAR

## HK

## NOV 2-11 FRI-SUN



Hong Kong International Literary Festival; Various prices. Various venues – see ticketing platform for more info (ticketflap.com)

This fantastic festival, taking place over the course of 10 days, consists of workshops and lectures, along with retrospectives of writers like Ursula K. Le Guin. The event will also welcome the likes of Irvine Welsh, author of *Trainspotting*, while exploring topics such as women's fiction, LGBTQ fiction, mental health and much, much more. There is so much to sink your teeth into here.

## NOV 9-11 FRI-SUN



Clockenflap 2018. 5-11pm (Fri)/ noon-11pm (Sat&Sun); RMB800-1,460, free for children under 12. Hong Kong Central Harbourfront, 9 Lung Wo Road Central and Western District Hong Kong (247tickets.com) One of the premiere annual music events held in Greater China, Clockenflap brings together top international talent in the form of Interpol, who recently released their well received sixth album, Marauder, alongside the likes of former Pulp frontman Jarvis Cocker, zany house music maestro Caribou, as well as some of the best Asian acts around - we're looking at you Bohan Phoenix (China) and Cornelius (Japan).

## NOV 22-24 THU-SAT



#### **Punchline Comedy Club Presents:**

Greg Davies, 8pm/9pm. HKD588 + HKD10 fee. Tamarind(ticketflap.com) Perhaps best known for his stint as Mr. Gilbert on popular British sitcom, *The Inbetweeners*, Greg Davies is also a top-notch stand-up comedian. Having made multiple appearances on panel shows like *Mock the Week*, Davies is a household name in the British Isles. He brings his somewhat crass and unapologetic humor to Hong Kong next month for a trio of dates. This should be bilarious

## NOV 22-25 THU-SUN



Hong Open 2018, 6-11pm/12-11pm; Free (Thur-Fri), HKD400-600 (Sat-Sun). Hong Kong Golf Club.(ticketflap.com)

Since its first appearance in Hong Kong in 1959, this golf tournament has seen some of the sport's best known players, like Colin Montgomerie, Bernhard Langer and Greg Norman, walk away with the spoils. Recent winners include Justin Rose and Rory McIlroy. This joint European Tour and Asian Tour event is a big one for South China's golf lovers.

## NOV 30 FRI



The Weeknd Live, 8pm; RMB690-1360. Asia-World Expo.(Damai.cn)
The Weeknd is one of the world's most popular and innovative pop stars. Having collaborated with the likes of Daft Punk, Ariana Grande and Kendrick Lamar, The Weeknd has about as much draw and mystique as a young Michael Jackson, not to mention his stellar dance moves. Watch him perform songs from his awesome 2016 release, Starboy, when he comes to Hong Kong this month.

## NOV 9-22 DAILY



Macau Food Festival, free entry. Sai

The annual Macau Food Festival will be held this month in the square adjacent to Macau Tower. Last year's edition attracted both local residents and visitors alike to savor delicious Southeast Asian, European and Chinese delicacies. Combined with exciting live entertainment, games and beer competitions, this food festival is becoming popular for its relaxed and welcoming alfresco dining atmosphere.

## NOV 15-18



**65th Macau Grand Prix,** 7.30am; MOP50/350/900. Guia Circuit (www. macauticket.com)

The 64th Macau Grand Prix is set to be held from November 15-18. This annual racing event, as the only street circuit racing event in the world to feature both cars and motorcycles, has garnered a massive following amongst racing fans – and elite drivers – around the world. Expect world-class driving and fierce competition throughout the four-day event.

## NOV 18 SUN



Noetic, 8pm; MOP100-250. Macao Cultural Centre (macauticket.com) Conceived by topical choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui for the Gothenburg Opera Dance Company, Noetic explores the relation between mind, body and space through elegant, contemporary moves executed by dancers dressed in black and white. The performers convey a whirlwind of emotions, complemented by intense rhythms created by a Japanese percussionist playing taiko drums.

## DEC 2



**Macau International Marathon.** For more information, visit www.macaumarathon.com.

Calling all runners! Now in its 37th year, the Macau Galaxy Entertainment International Marathon consists of a mini marathon, half marathon and full marathon, and is a popular event for runners of all ages and skill levels. Dust off those running shoes and head down to Macau this month.

## UNTIL JAN 6 TUE-SUN



La Parisienne – Cabaret Francais, 5pm/8pm; MOP188/388/488. The Parisian Macao (cotaiticketing.com) Featuring an international cast of 38 professional entertainers, the 65-minute-long *La Parisienne* – *Cabaret Francais* blends illusion, dance, death-defying stunts and comedy with classic acts, such as can-can and burlesque dancing. Highlights of the show include a gravity-defying basketball acrobatics squad and the world-renowned

Globe of Death motorcycle team.

#### –( win

We have eight tickets to this show to give away! Message our official WeChat account (ThatsShenzhen) before with the subject 'Cabaret' and why you should win. Please include your full name and contact number.

# HOTEL NEWS



## HILTON SHENZHEN FUTIAN

## Holds Third-Year Anniversary Dinner

On October 18, Hilton Shenzhen Futian welcomed guests for an unforgettable evening of live performances and auction sessions to celebrate their third anniversary. Highlights of the event included a fantastic magic show and, as you'd expect, a prize-packed lucky draw. With food at the event themed 'good fortune,' here's to wishing Hilton Shenzhen Futian many happy anniversaries to come.



## HILTON SHENZHEN SHEKOU NANHAI

## Partners With Dive4Love for Family Day CSR Activities

Hilton Shenzhen Shekou Nanhai partnered with coral conservation NGO Dive4Love to bring Shenzheners their 'No Plastic, Dive4Love Family Day' last month. Thirty family volunteers were in attendance at the event to learn about how to responsibly dive and how best to use diving equipment. Volunteers also learned about recycling fishing nets and how to interact with marine life without causing any undue harm. Both companies advocate for sustainable living and are committed to the No Plastic movement.

## **PROMOTIONS**

## SHANGRI-LA HOTELS **AND RESORTS**

## Hairy Crab Season

Chinese culinary masters at Shangri-La's 42 hotels around China, Taiwan and Singapore welcome this year's Hairy Crab Festival. The festival will run until November 30, with nine of the hotel group's culinary masters creating nine signature dishes including fried bean curd stuffed with crab and also yellow wine-preserved hairy crab flatbread. Set lunch and dinner menus, wine-pairing events and gift sets are also available during the festival with Golden Circle members able to enjoy up to 35 percent off.





## JW MARRIOTT HOTEL **SHENZHEN**

## Halloween Afternoon Tea Set

To celebrate the 'spookiest time of year.' chefs at JW Marriott Hotel, Shenzhen have prepared a themed afternoon set which features such scary delicacies as tombstone cake and zombie macarons. You can enjoy this promotion until October 31 in JW Marriott Hotel Shenzhen's The Lounge for as little as RMB168 for two people if you book via the hotel's WeChat miniprogram.

# THE LANGHAM,

## Partners with Guerlain for Guerlain

Available until November 30, Guerlain Afternoon Tea draws inspiration from the French luxury cosmetics brand's signature style to create a distinctive harmony between food and fashion. With items such as 'Rouge G de Guerlain,' a strawberry chocolate lipstick, and 'Meteorites,' a powder box made with coconut and pineapple Caribbean mousse and colorful chocolate blush powder balls, this afternoon tea set is simply ravishing.











# LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Discover Convenience and Travel Ease at Shangri-la Hotel, Shenzhen

ocation, location, location
– it's the mantra of real
estate agents everywhere.
Any property salesperson worth
their salt will tell you that the
location of a given home, building
or the like is one of the major factors determining said structure's
value. At the esteemed Shangri-la
Hotel, Shenzhen the concept of
'optimum location' is one of the
hospitality outlet's most praiseworthy attributes.

On our most recent visit to Shangri-la Hotel, Shenzhen, both staffers and guests alike praised the hotel's ideal location when we spoke with them. A short five-minute walk to the Luohu-Hong Kong border crossing, the hotel is the perfect accommodation option for people looking to visit the 'Fragrant Harbor.'

Additionally, Shangri-la Hotel, Shenzhen is positioned in walking distance of two metro stations, Renmin South Station and Luohu Station, and is located literally across the road from Shenzhen Railway Station – meaning travel routes spanning the entire Chinese mainland are literally right on the hotel's doorstep.

Shoppers will also be happy to know that the Luohu Commercial Shopping Center is



just moments away!

While it's easy to get carried away discussing the hotel's prime real estate, let's not forget the bountiful culinary offerings available at Shangri-la Hotel, Shenzhen. Fans of Cantonese cuisine will swoon at the sight of Shang Palace's new autumn dim sum menu, which features sinfully-delicious deep-fried chrysanthemum soft buns, mouthwatering purple potato puffs with almond sauce and, our personal favorite, homemade passion fruit pudding, among other delightful edibles.

In addition to a Shang Palace and Shangri-la, Shenzhen's casual all-day buffet restaurant Coffee Garden, we'd like to take just a moment to pay homage to Champs Bar and Grill: an atmospheric restaurant and pub with a menu featuring a diverse range of food and beverages (we recommend diving into the burger section!).

Located in the heart of Luohu, Shenzhen's commercial and shopping district, a stay at Shangri-la Hotel, Shenzhen is one of guaranteed convenience and assured travel ease!

1002 Jianshe Lu, Luohu District 罗湖区建设路1002号 (8233 0888, 134 2553







# PRD FOCUS



n October 12, the LN Garden Hotel welcomed a convoy of 14 vintage cars journeying from Hamburg to Hong Kong across eight countries. The event was a unique opportunity for Guangzhouers to view classic cars and mingle with globetrotting automobile enthusiasts.



ady Eleanor Holles International School is expected to open its doors next September (2019). The school was founded in the pioneering spirit of Lady Eleanor Holles School, which has been providing an outstanding education to girls in London for over 300 years.



n October 23, the British School of Guangzhou officially opened its new South Park building – a facility designed to support the school's collaboration with MIT and the Juilliard School.



n the evening of September 19, a wine tasting course was given by sommelier Zhu Weidong to a group of wine lovers gathered at Guangzhou Book Center. In order to promote wine culture, the course was free of charge and open to the public.



n light of World Rabies Day, the Guangzhou branch of Doctors Beck & Stone Animal Hospital donated 100 imported rabies vaccines to Animal Action GZ and Zhuyi Xiaoyuan Dog Rescue Center.



ast month, parents and their little ones were invited to discover the beauty of organic fruits and vegetables with French chef Christian Huang in Guangzhou's Sanle Book House. Under her expert guidance, attendees experienced the fun of preparing an organic meal all by themselves.



hina Hotel, A Marriot Hotel hosted the 15th edition of Oktoberfest in Guangzhou last month. The celebration featured fun activities, German beer and a sumptuous buffet featuring classic German dishes, such as pork knuckle, roast beef and German sausages.



tarting in September, Starbucks launched a test run of delivery services in major Chinese cities, including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. Coffee drinkers in the PRD can now place Starbucks orders on Ele.me.

# CITY SCENES

## Merchiston International School (MIS) Opening (Supported by **that?** and **urban**fomily)

On October 13, Merchiston International School (MIS) held its official opening ceremony in Shenzhen, which was attended by nearly 1,000 guests, including Lord Provost of Edinburgh. During the event, Lord Provost of Edinburgh Mr. Frank Ross and Mr. Wang Yuxi, director of Longhua District Education Bureau, expressed the importance of MIS in boosting international links and regional education development. The ceremony also saw a variety of live performances and fun activities enjoyed by attendees.















## The Second Awfully Brunch – Incredible Cruise at The Ritz-Carlton, Guangzhou (Supported by **that**) and **urban**family )

A brunch spectacle spanning the entire grand ballroom of The Ritz-Carlton, Guangzhou was witnessed by 300 attendees at the second edition of Awfully Brunch on October 14. The hotel's culinary team took guests on a gastronomic voyage to explore some of the world's most popular foodie destinations (all while enjoying free flow wine). Dubbed Awfully Brunch – Incredible Cruise, this maritime-themed brunch took visitors from the kitchens of the South Pacific and Southeast Asia to the communal dining tables of Europe.















## The Second Discover Germany Festival in Guangzhou (Supported by that?)

After the success of last year's Discover Germany extravaganza, the German Chamber of Commerce | South & Southwest China hosted, in conjunction with the General Consulate of Germany in Guangzhou and Grandview Mall, the second edition of the Germany-themed festival on September 29. The festive occasion was dedicated to promoting German brands, design, innovation and culture, and attracted over 15,000 visitors this year, who were dazzled by a great variety of German home and food products.



## **Captivating Charity Auction** (Supported by that) and urbanfamily)

As the dust settles on their 10th Annual Captivating Charity Auction, Captivating is left with deep gratitude and praise for the amazing community that attended their successful event in Shenzhen. Together with the Shenzhen Charity Federation, Shamtse Charity and LOVEQTRA, Captivating will enable nearly 1,000 impoverished - yet highly talented - girls to finally make their education dreams a reality.









## Foshan Qiandeng Lake Music Festival (Supported by that?)

On the evening of October 12, seven up-and-coming groups performed in a 'battle of the bands'-style competition at this year's Foshan Qiandeng Lake Music Festival. The following day, a number of wellknown Chinese bands and musicians took the stage, including Chengdubased girl band, The Hormones, who rocked the stage with their metaldance-techno-pop music, and China's post punk trailblazers Rebuilding the Rights of Statues. In addition to live music, the festival also hosted a food fair, where 20 different vendors offered an array of delicious edibles, while a flea market was organized for thrifty folks to peruse.



# LISTINGS



#### Scan for complete listings

Want to see all restaurants, hotels and more in Shenzhen? Check out www.thatsmags.com or follow our official WeChat account by scanning the QR code.

## AWARD

Winner of a That's Food & Drink Award 2017

## OPEN DOOR







## **ELECTRIC CITY FESTIVAL**

## Shenzhen Craft Beer Festival Enters Fourth Year

Bionic Brew presents Shenzhen's first, all-China craft beer festival. This community focused event began in 2015 with just six breweries and a 'battle of the bands'-style concert. Now in its fourth year, Electric City Festival hosts 20 breweries from Guangdong, Sichuan, Beijing, Hubei, Hong Kong and Taiwan, alongside a host of amazing DJs and tasty food.

Nov 9-11. RMB80-120. Halo Plaza, No. 8 Liyuan Road, Luohu District 深圳市罗湖区梨园路8号HALO 广场 (0755) 8670 7005

## FOOD & DRINK

### AMERICAN

Element Fresh 1) 1/F, Zone B, Sea World, Shekou, Nanshan District (2681 4848) 2) L2-7/7A, Wongtee Plaza, 118 Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (8323 7249) 1) 南山区海上世界广场区B130-210号 2) 福田区福华三路118号皇庭国商购物广场12-7/7A号

AWARZ Baia Burger Concept 1) 1C-077-078A, 1/F, Shopping Park, Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (82'90 659) 2) A2303 3/F, Second Building Section A, Sea World, Shekou, Nanshan District (2681 8890) 1) 福田区福华三路购物公园1楼078A 2) 深圳市南山区蛇口海上世界A区区座3楼3号

The Butchers Club B101A, PAFC Mall, Ping An Finance Center, 5033 Yitian Lu, Futian District (8272 5669) 福田区益田路5033号平安金船中心B1,下沉式广场B101A商铺 观光厅入口旁边)

Morton's Grille N901, 9/F, PAFC Mall, Ping An Finance Center, 5033 Yitian Lu, Futian District (8326 8333) 福田区益田路5033号平安 金融中4/948N904

Hard Rock Cafe Shenzhen 9 Mission Hills Blvd, Longhua New District (3395 2888) 龙华新区观澜高尔夫大道9号www. hardrockhotels.com/shenzhen

Blue Frog Shop 28, 2/F, Wongtee Plaza, 118 Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (8255 3646) 福田区福华三路118号皇庭国商购物广场及层28幅

## CHINESE

#### CANTONESE

Hoi Fan 1) North gate L/F, Yijing Central Walk Shopping Mall, 3 Fuhua Yi Lu, Futian District (8322 6165) 2) Rm 16 3/F, Raffles City, 2163 Nanhai Dadae, Nanshan District (2640 8664) 1) 福田区福华一路3号新怡景商业中心上层北大门 2) 南海大道2163号来福士广场3层16号

Diandoude Dim Sum 4/F, Greater China IFC, Shennan Dadao and Caitian Lu Interchange, Futian District (8321 9215) 福田区 溶病 大道和梁田路容定 小十五处FC DIM港

Jade Garden 22-31 L2/F, Yitian Holiday Plaza, 9028 Shennan Dadao, Nanshan District (8860 6228) 南山区深南大道9028号益田 假日广场L2楼22-31号

#### SICHLIAN

Rong Yue 1) 468 4/F, MIXC, 1881, Bao'an Nan Lu, Luohu District (2221 6888) 2) L3/F, Yitian Holiday Plaza, 9028 Shennan Dadao, Nanshan District (8665 6877) 1) 罗湖区宝安 南路1881号华间万象城—期4层48号2) 南山区深 南大道9028号益田假日广场3层

Lan Ting 23/F, Hilton Shenzhen Futian, Tower B, Great China IFC, 1003 Shennan lu, Futian District (2130 8888) 福田区深南大 道1003号大中华国际金融中心B座大深圳中华希 尔顿酒店23楼

#### SHANGHAINESE

Crystal Jade La Mian Xiao Long Bao B1/F, KK MALL, 5016 Shennan Dong Lu, Futian District (2265 9183) 福田区深南东路5016号 KKMALL京基百纳空间B1层

Din Tai Fung 3/F, MixC, 1881, Bao'an Nan Lu, Luohu District (2598 2779) 罗湖区宝安南 路1881号华闰万象城一期3层

Shanghai Min A-1F, OCT Bay, 13 Baishi Dong Lu, Nanshan District (4008209777) 南山区白石路东13号欢乐海岸曲水湾A-1F

#### ITALIAN

PAPI Italian Restaurant N702, 7/F, Ping An Finance Center, 5033 Yitian Lu, Futian District (8326 6833) 福田区益田路5033号平安全融ロルフ港N702号

Artisans 1/F, Block A, Poly Cultural Center, Houhaibin Lu, by Haide San Dao (8628 7109) 南山区 保利文化广场A区40号店铺

Alla Torre #101, Area B, Sea World, 1128 Wanghai Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District (2685 1322) 南山区蛇口望海路1128号海上世界B区101

Blue Italian Seafood & Grill Restaurant 3/F, The Venice Raytour Hotel Shenzhen, 9026 Shennan Dadao, Nanshan District (2693 6888) 南山区深南大道9026号深圳威尼其 會途酒店3枝意大利餐厅

Baia Restaurant Bar Grill B301, Bldg B, Zone B, Sea World Square, Shekou, Nanshan District (2681 8836) 南山区蛇口海 トサ田 广本区で348201

La Terrazza 1/F, Grand Hyatt Shenzhen, 1881 Baoan Nan Lu, by Jiabing Lu (2218 7338) 罗湖区宝安南路1881号深圳君悦酒店

Paletto 2/F, The Ritz-Carlton, 116 Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (2222 2222) 福田区福华三路116号深圳星河丽思卡尔顿酒店二层

Oggi Trattoria Pizzeria 3-14 Golden Century Lu, Phase 3, Coastal Rose Garden, Shekou, Nanshan District (2689 0118) 南 山区蛇口金世纪路南海玫瑰花园三期金世纪路 3-14号

### PIZZA

Pizza Express Shop 568, 5/F, the MixC, 1881 Bao'an Nan Lu, Luohu District (2215 9036) 罗湖区宝安南路1881号万象城5楼568

Kiwi Pizza 1) Shop B14, COCO Park, by Fuhua Lu (8329 2299) 2) 8 Outlets Minkang Lu, by Huanan Lu 3) B1, 138 Mintian Lu, by Fuhua Yi Lu 1) 福田区购物公园B1楼地铁商业街B14铺2)龙华新区奥特莱斯8号仓店 3) 福田区民田路138号购物公园B1楼

Baia Da Marco Shop #28 Coastal Rose Garden, Shekou, Nanshan District, shenzhen (2681 8849) 南山区蛇口街道豐海路南海玫瑰花园 (二期) 33—36梯楼28

NYPD New York Pizza Delivery 1) Shop 26, Haichang Jie, 1 Gongyuan Nan Lu (8887 6973) 2) 3 Fuhua Yi Lu, by Zhongxin Si Lu (8887 6973) 1) 南山区公園南路 1号海尚国际26号铺 2)福田区福华一路中心城厂1015商铺

#### **FRENCH**

Belle-Vue Grill 37/F, Grand Hyatt Shenzhen, 1881 Bao'an Nan Lu, Luohu District (2218 7338) 罗湖区宝安南路 1881号君悦酒 店37楼

L'etoile Building A 302-303, Ecological PLAZA, OCT, Nanshan District (8166 8111) 南山区华侨城生态广场A 栋302-303

La Maison Shop 108, Nanhai Rose Garden, 91 Wanghai Lu, Nanshan District (2685 7030) 南山区望海路91号南海玫 現花园108号

Taste Moment Restaurant 1st floor, Bldg 1, Block A, 1979 Cultural and Creative Park, 1011 Qiaoxiang Lu, Futian District (8255 6173) 福田区侨香路1011号1979文化生活新领 球A区1栋1层

### **GERMAN**

Haxnbauer 1) L1C-055B, 1/F, Coco Park, Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (8359 2080) 2) L1-15, Raffles City, 2163 Nanhai Ave, Nanshan District (8652 6580) 1) 福田区福华三路星河Coco Park一楼L1C-055t 2) 南山区南京大道2163号福士广场1-15

LISTINGS

Paulaner Brauhaus 1) C-005, Huanchuan Square, Sea World, Shekou, Nanshan District (2668 7230) 2) 8/F, Shop 801, PAFC Mall, Ping An Finance Centre, 5033 Yitian Lu, Futian District (8253 5187) 1) 南山区蛇口海上世界环船广场C-005 2)福田区 益田路0033号平安金龍中心铁器01

#### SPANISH

Ling Spanish Kitchen 1011 Qiao Xiang Dong Lu, 1979 Cultural Park, Nanshan District (8322 7522) 南山区侨香东路1011号1979 文化新天地区71层

### MIDDLE EASTERN

AWARP Bus Grill Turkish Steakhouse Shop 134, 1/F, Shopping Park B Area, Futian District (158 2044 6962) 福田区购物 公開日区 134頃

Les 5 Chef's Miznon 143 Laojie, Shekou, Nanshan District (132 5889 0561) 南山蛇 口老街143号

The Istanbul Restaurant 1-22 Huafa Bei Lu, Huaqiangbei Jiedao, Futian District (3309 7180) 福田区华强北街道华发北路1-22号

### MEXICAN

Teqo FL1018, Yijing Central Walk Shopping Mall, 3 Fuhua Yi Lu, Futian District. (18928448542) 福田区福华一路3号怡景中心城日 1018号铺

Orale No. 1026, Zhonghang Beiyuan V Shangjie, Zhenhua Lu, Huaqiangbei, Futian District (2396 4990) 福田区华强北振华路中航 サストルでよりの8号域

Tacos 3118#, Sea World Square, 32 Taizi Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District (2161 1006) 南山区蛇口太子路32号海上世界广场A3118店铺

Latina No. 1128, Sea World, Wanghai Lu, by Nanhai Dadao (2667 7679) 南山区蛇口望海路1128号海上世界广场C区

### INDIAN

Bombay Indian Restaurant & Bar Shops 20-24, Sea World, Nanshan District (2667 6049) 南山区海上世界商铺20-24号

Saffron Indian Restaurant and Bar Floor B1, Jinhu Hotel, 1005 Wenjin Lu, Luchu District (8219 1115) 罗湖区文锦中路1005号锦 湖宾馆地下一层

Indian Cottage Shop 48-49, 2/F, Area A, Poly Cultural Centre, Wenxin Wu Lu, Nanshan District (8628 7265) 南山区文心五路保利文化广场A区2楼48-49号简辅

Little Papa Indian Restaurant #116, Building 6, Nanhai E-Cool, Taizi Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District (2686 0020) 南山区蛇口太 子路南海意库6栋116号

#### **JAPANESE**

BOA 3/F, West side of International Bar Street, Sea World, Shekou, Nanshan District (130 4894 9034) 南山区蛇口海上世界国际酒 吧街西侧三棱

Tang Ben Jia #FL1011, L/F, Yijing Central Walk Shopping Mall, 3 Fuhua Yi Lu, Futian District (8280 1086) 福田区福华—路3号怡崇中小城广场 梯門 1011号

Bincho Ya L120-121, Bldg 2, Times Square Excellence, Fuhua Lu, Futian District (8278 2760) 福田医福华路卓越时代广场二期L120 - L121后

Komachi B-132, North Side, Shopping Park, Futian District (8290 5806) 福田区购物 公園北周日区 132号

Kyoku Japanese Cuisine B·17 Qushui Bay, OCT Bay, 50 Baishi Lu East, Nanshan District (8654 1122) 南山区白石路东50号欢乐 海岸曲水海R-17

Nishimura 1/F, Macro Polo Hotel, Fuhua Yi Lu, by Mintian Lu (3339 7709) 福田中心区福 华一路马哥李罗好日子酒店1楼

Kanpai Classic 9/F, PAFC Mall, Ping An Finance Center, 5033 Yitian Road, Futian District (6182 2987) 福田区福华三路平安金融中介第9楼

#### KOREAN

Minikor Kitchen L01-B01, Coco Park, 269 Fuhua San Lu, by Mintian Lu, Futian District (8606 9266) 福田区民田路福华三路269号星河 Coco Park L1-B0

Bornga Korean Cuisine A-11A, Qushui Wan, OCT Bay, 42 Baishi Lu East, Nanshan District (8654 1158) 南山区白石路东42号欢乐 海崖曲水源A-11A

### VIETNAMESE

Lian Shop 562, 5/F, The MIXC Shenzhen, Luohu District (8266 6366) 罗湖区万象城商场后楼5624亩

Muine 1) L2-203, Coco Park, Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (8271 2527) 2) B139 and B139-2, B1/F, Jiufang Shopping Mall, ShennanZhong Lu, Futian District (2681 7828) 3) No. 219, 2/F, Shekou Garden City Center, Nanshan District (2681 7828) 4) B2-017A, King Glory Plaza, Luohu District (2220 3052) 5) RL1094B, Yijing Central Walk Shopping Mall, 3 Fuhua Yl Lu, Futian District (8273 2993) 6) G-025B, OCT Bay Shopping mall, 13 Baishi Dong Lu, Nanshan District (8671 7326) 1) 福田区福华三路〇〇〇 Park L2-203 2) 福田区深南中路华强北九方胸,物中心B1层 B139 & B139-2 3) 南山区南海大道 1086号花园城中心第2楼219号铺 4) 罗湖区人民南路金光华广场已足居2-017A号 5) 福田区福华三路中心城广场层尺、1094号 6) 南山区流海大道 2008号欢乐海岸购物中心G-025B

Mon Saigon Block B, 1979 Cultural and Creative Park, by Qiaoxiang Lu, Futian District (8270 3282) 福田区侨香路1979文化

Pho Nam Shop B26C, Link City Passage, by Fuhua Lu (8255 7048) 福田区连城新天地 B26C商铺

#### THAI

The Terrace Restaurant & Bar #201, Sea World Square, 32 Taizi Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District (2682 9105) 南山区蛇口太子路32号海上世界广场商铺201

Very Siam 1/F, A3 Bldg, Xiangshan Dong Jie, OCT-Loft, Nanshan District (8623 3225) 南山区OCT创意园香山东街A3栋1楼

Yes Thai 1) 4/F, KK Shopping Mall, KK Financial Centre, 5016 Shennan Dong Lu, by Hongbao Lu (2290 0333) 2) 5/F, Costal City, 33 Wenxin Wu Lu, by Haide Yi Dao (8635 9989) 1) 罗湖区深南东路5016号京基百纳空间隙物中心4楼 2) 南山区文心五路33号海岸城路坳中心万楼

La Maison D'Elephant 8/F, PAFC Mall, Ping An Finance Center, 5033 Yitian Lu, Futian District (8831 9918) 福田区益田路5033号平 安金融中心8楼

#### RI IFFFTS

Air/Airce Café Zen 1/F, Futian Shangri-la Shenzhen, 4088 Yitian lu, Futian District (2151 3825)福田区益田路4088号深圳福田香格 里拉大西京1度

## OPEN DOOR



## THE TERRACE RESTAURANT & BAR

## Thai-Style Prawn 'Sashimi' Salad

Thai-style prawns are rich in nutrients and contain more protein than fish, eggs or milk. What's more, the meat is soft and easy to digest. The Terrace brings you the most authentic prawn flavors with this unique dish, while also adding a touch of Thai-style sauce to get your taste-buds racing.

#201, Seaworld Square, 32 Taizi Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District 南山区蛇口太子路32号海上世界广场商辅201 (2682 9105 2683 2775)



## ZAZ00

## You Won't Believe What's Arrived in Coco Park

Looking for a new place to party? Head to newly-opened Zazoo and enjoy funky music by the venue's elite house band while sipping on hand-crafted cocktails in a vibrant and comfortable environment. Zazoo provides you with professional, personal and top-level service! All of the bar's service staff have been trained in the latest Western service trends and will be on their toes, waiting to make sure your Zazoo party goes off without a hitch!

#131, Shopping Park Mintian Lu, Futian District 福田区民田路购物公园131号 (8891 4782)

## OPEN DOOR



## **TAPS BREWPUB**

## **End of Days IPA**

Recently featured in *Lonely Planet's Global Beer Tour* as one of China's top 5 beers, End of Days IPA has a medium body and light caramel color and taste that balances the explosion of tropical flavors and aromas which exude from the American hops used to make it. Stop in at TAPS Brewpub to try this globally-recognized sud, as well as some of their other award-winning beers, all made in-house at their onsite brewery.

Shop 136, 137. Anwanwu Rd, JunHuiXinTian Garden, Nanshan, Shenzhen (Behind All City North) 深 圳市南山区岸湾五路君汇新天136 137号商铺 (0755-21616171)



## TEQUILA COYOTE'S MEXICAN FOOD & GRILL

## Savor Traditional Ceviche

Slices of fresh fish are seasoned and marinated in lemon juice, before being mixed with vegetables and topped with Mexican avocado and crunchy tortilla strips in this expertly crafted dish. Sounds to die for, right? It is, and we're encouraging fans of Mexican cuisine to head over to Tequila Coyotes to give it a try!

18 Taizi Lu, by Wanghai Lu 南山区 太子路18号海上世界 (2683 6446)

#### LISTINGS

The Show Kitchen 32/F, Grand Hyatt Shenzhen, 1881 Baoan Nan Iu, Luohu District (2218 7338) 罗湖区宝安南路1881号深圳君悦 酒店32层

Silk 2/F, The Langham, Shenzhen, 7888 Shennan Dadao, Futian District (8828 9888 ext. 8921) 深圳东海朗廷酒店2层秀·自助餐厅

Market Café 2/F, Hyatt Regency Shenzhen Airport, Shenzhen Baoan International Airport, Boa'an District (2345 1234) 宝安区深圳 宝安国际机场深圳机场副税酒店2层

**Café Marco** 1/F, Marco Polo Shenzhen, 28 Fuhua Yi Lu, Futian District (3322 7777) 福田区福华一路28号深圳乌哥李罗 お日子河底1月

#### **NIGHTLIFE**



The George & Dragon is a quintessential British Pub; good draft beers, ales, and cider; comforting pub food and great BBQ; non-stop sports on three screens; secluded beer garden. Your home away from home. Also available for catering your parties and events. www.george-dragon.com; e-mail: manager@george-dragon.com; tel: 2669 8564; Shop 3, behind Taizi Hotel, Taizi Lu 5, Shekou. 南山区太子路5号太子宾馆

Club Viva No. 140, Fuhua Lu, Coco Park, Futian District 福田区福华路城建购物公园 140 号

**AWARD** Dazzle Club 3/F, Central Commercial Building, No.88 Fuhua 1st Road, Futian District (2348 1542) 福田区民田路中小商条大厦三楼

McCawley's Irish Bar 1) Shop 151·152, Coco Park, Futian District (2531 3599) 2) Shop 118, Sea World, Shekou, Nanshan District (2668 4496) 1) 福田区町砂公园151-152 2) 南山区蛇口海上世界广场118号

Pepper Club 2/F, Shopping Park, Fuhua Lu, Fustian District (8319 9040) 福田 区福华路购物公园二楼

AWARD The Terrace Above Starbucks, Sea World Plaza, Shekou, Nanshan District (2682 9105) 南山区蛇口海上世界广场2 楼星 P古楼上

## **EDUCATION**

American International School, No. 82,Gongyuan Lu, Shekou,Nanshan District (8619 4750)

南山区蛇口公园路82号青少年活动中心

Green Oasis School No. 4030, Shennan Middle Road, Tianmian, Futian District. (8399 6712) admission@greenoasis.org.cn www.greenoasis.org.cn 实现现所的概念

International School of Nanshan Shenzhen A Canadian school accepting application for Pre-Grade 1 through Grade 12. 11 Longyuan Lu, Taiyuan Sub-District, Nanshan District (2666 1000, 2606 6968), admission@isnsz.com www.isnsz.com

Merchiston International School No. 12 Shilongzai Road, Daliang Sub-District, Longhua District, (400 867 0177) admissions@merchiston.cn, www.merchiston.cn 龙华区大浪街道新石社区石龙仔路12号 Peninsula Montessori Kindergarten The Peninsula one, Jin Shiji Lu, Shekou Nanshan District (2685 1266) 半岛城邦国际刘儿园 南山区蛇口东角头金世纪路1 吴半岛城邦一期

Quality Schools International 2/F Bitao Center, 8 Taizi Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District (2667 6031). www.shk.qsi.org 南山区蛇口太子路 8 号碧涛中心 2 楼

QSI International School of Shenzhen (Futian) A1, TCL Science Park, No. 1001 Zhongshan Yuan, Nanshan District (8371 7108) 南山区中山园路1001号TCL 科学园区A1林

Shekou International School Jingshan Villas, Gongye Er Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District (2669 3669). www.sis.org.cn 面川政府工业一路館川別監内

Shen Wai International School 29 Baishi San Lu, Nanshan (8654 1200, www.swis.cn) 深圳外国语学校国际部 南山区白石三道 29 号

## HOTEL

Futian Shangri-La Hotel Shenzhen No.4088 Yitian Lu, Futian District (8828 4088). 海田基坡由拉士河下海田区美田路 4088 亮

Four Seasons Hotel Shenzhen 138 Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (8826 8888) 海田区第40二路 138 早

Grand Hyatt Shenzhen No.1881 Baoan Nan Lu, Luohu District (8266 1234) www.shenzhen.grand.hyatt.com 罗湖区宝安南路1881号

Hardrock Hotel Shenzhen, Hard Rock Cafe Shenzhen, No.9 Misson Hills Road,Shenzhen, 0755-3395 2888 深圳硬石 酒店 观潮高尔夫大道9号

Hilton Shenzhen Shekou Nanhai 1177, Wanghai Lu, Nanshan District 深圳蛇口希尔顿南海酒店 南山区望海路 1177 号 (2162 8888)

Hilton Shenzhen Futian Town B, Great China International Finance Centre, 1003 Shennan Dadao, Futian District (2130 8888) 福田又深南大道1003号大中华国际金融中小B座

JW Marriott Shenzhen No.6005 Shennan Dadao, Futian District. (2269 8888) 福田区突転大道 6005 早

JW Marriott Shenzhen Bao'an 8 Baoxing Lu, Baoan District (2323 8888) 深圳前海华侨城 JW 万豪酒店 宝安区宝兴路 8 号

Marco Polo Shenzhen Fuhua Yi Lu, CBD, Futian District (8298 9888). www. cn.marcopolohotels.com 福田中心区福华一路

Shangri-La Hotel East of the Luohu Train Station, Jianshe Lu, Luohu District (8233 0888), www.shangri-la.com

Sheraton Dameisha Resort 9 Yankui Lu, Dameisha, Yantian District (8888 6688) 盐田大梅沙盐葵路 (大梅沙段) 9 号

St. Regis Shenzhen No.5016 Shennan Dong Lu, Luohu District.(8308 8888)

The Langham, Shenzhen, No. 7888, Shennan Dadao, Futian District (8828 9888). 空間組みでは、原用区であり、1888 年 1888 年 1

The Ritz-Carlton, Shenzhen 116 Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (2222 2222) 福田区海华二路 116 是

The Venice Raytour Hotel Shenzhen No.9026, Shennan Dadao, Overseas Chinese Town, Nanshan District (2693 6888) 空間域尼斯義洛斯氏菌川区华侨旅菜南大道 9026 号

The Westin Shenzhen 9028-2 Shennan Dadao, Nanshan District (2698 8888) www.westin.com/shenzhen 南山区深南大道9028—2

Hyatt Regency Shenzhen Airport, Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport, Bao'an District 深圳田城前院酒店 宝安区深圳宝安国际机

InterContinental Shenzhen, No. 9009, Shennan Road, Nanshan District 深圳华侨城 LISTINGS

洲际大酒店,南山区深南大道9009号 (3399 3388)

The Courtyard by Marriott Shenzhen Bao'an, No.46 Dongfang Road, Songgang, Bao'an District 宝安区松岗东方大道46号 (2986 courtvardshenzhenbaoan com)

## HEALTH

Vista-SK International Medical Center Lvl Bldg 4C, Shenzhen Software Industry ase, Xuefu Lu, Nanshan District (3689 4, blug 40, 515... Base, Xuefu Lu, Nanshan District (3689 9833) 南山区学府路软件产业基地4栋C座裙楼4层

J&C Dental 4FG, China Economic Trade Building, No.8, Zizu Qilu, Futian District (13418536301) 福田区紫竹七道8号中国经贸

HarMoniCare Women & Children's Hospital 12018 Shennan Dadao, by Nanshan Dadao (3339 1333) 深圳和美妇儿科医院 南山区深南大

C-MER (Shenzhen) Dennis Lam Eye Hospital 1-2/F, Shengtang Bldg, 1 Tairan Jiu Lu, Chegongmiao, Futian District (4001 666 120, 3322 7188) 福田区车公庙乘然九路一号

MMC(International Medical Center) serves the local community and expatriates from all over the world. We are proud to provide private, personalized healthcare for each patient. Our experienced staff from Hong Kong, Mainland China and overseas provide comprehensive medical services including general and specialty outpatient services, health assessments, inpatient services, health assessments, inpatient services and more. Scan QR Code above for more info of IMC. 深圳市福田区海园一路,香港大学深圳医院国际医疗中心 International Medical Centre, The University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen Hospital, 1, Haiyuan 1st Road, Futian District, Shenzhen (8691 3388)

## HAIR SALONS

Shang Hair B2S-001, Coco Park, Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (8887 9899)湄田区福华三 路星河Coco Park商场负二楼B2S-001

Toni & Guy 1) S248, The MIXC Shenzhen,

Luohu District (2290 9505) 2) 103, Section C, Sea World, Wanghai Lu, by Xinghua Lu, Shekou, Nanshan District (2290 9521) 1) 湖区宝安南路1881号万象城S2 蛇口望海路海上世界C区103店

## **BUSINESS**

China-Italy Chamber of Commerce Rm220, 2/F, international Chamber Of Commerce, Fuhua San Lu, Futian District (Tel: 8632 9518; fax: 8632 9528). www. cameraitacina com cameraitacina.com ` 福田区福华三路国际商会中心 2 楼 220 室

European Union Chamber of Commerce Rm 308, 3/F Overseas Chinese Scholars Venture Building, southern section of High-Tech Industrial Park, Nanshan District (Tel: lech industrial r ain, 146131322 - - - 8635 0920; fax: 8632 9785). 专门竞车科特局南区留学生创业大厦 3 楼 308 室

French Chamber of Commerce in South rrenc namper of Commerce in South China (CCIFC) Room 318, 3/F Chinese Overseas Scholars Venture Building, South section of Hi-tech Industry Park, Nanshan District (Tel: 8632 9062; fax: 8632 9736) www.ccifc.org 南山区科技园南区留学生创业大厦强建公18°

German Chamber of Commerce Room 4A·11, Zone C, Zhong Ke Nano Build-ing Yuexing Liu Lu, Nanshan District (8635 0487) www.china.ahk.de 中国深圳市南山区粤 兴六道中科纳能大厦C区4A-11

The American Chamber of Commerce in South China Rm 208, 2/F Overseas Chinese Scholars Venture Building, southern section of High-Tech Industrial Park, Nanshan District (Tel: 2658 8342; fax: 2658 8341). www.amcham-southchina.org

The British Chamber of Commerce. Shen-Then Sub-Chamber Rm 314, 3/F Overseas Chinese Scholars Venture Building, southern section of High-Tech Industrial Park, Nan-shan District (2658 8350). 深圳市南山区高新

Morefoods No1,1F,Building A,OCEAN city Garden,Shekou New Street, Nanshan District,shenzhen (8827 9078) 深圳市南山区

## OPEN DOOR



## **FAST LANE**

## **Fast Coffee for Fast Movers**

Located in Nanshan Software Park, Fast Lane Coffee values your time and specializes in delivering the perfect cup of joe, fast. Presenting some of the world's finest beans, which are roasted in a unique and stomach-friendly way, their coffee will brighten up your morning. One of their most popular single-brew coffees is the Kenya peaberry bean, which is a rare mutation that leads to a rounder bean and thus a better roast.

......

1/F, Rocketspace, Haitian Er Lu, Shenzhen Software Industry Base, Yuehai Jiedao, Nanshan District 深圳市南山区粤海街道软件产业基地海天二路创业投资大厦一楼速道咖啡 [15974492500]



## **GEORGE & DRAGON**

## Pig-in-the-Box Barbecue

On November 17 at 7pm, George & Dragon will be bringing you its famous pig-in-the-box barbecue for only RMB128! Featuring a whole hog slow roasted for eight hours, as well as mashed potatoes, mac 'n' cheese, vegetables, sauces and more, this is a feast you do not want to miss. Also available for parties and events or outside catering. To book, email manager@george-dragon.com.

Shop No. 3, behind Taizi Hotel, 5 Taizi Road, Nanshan District, 南山区太子路5号太子宾馆1楼后排 3号商铺 (2669 8564)

# CI ASSIFIFDS

#### **JOBS OFFERED**

#### Shenzhen Longrun Investment Co., Ltd,

a fast-growing restaurant enterprise is looking for two foreign hostesses to join the team to greet and show hospitality to quests on behalf of the company. Requirements

- Ability to understand and speak basic Chinese
- 2. A minimum height of 168cm.
- 3. A passion for communications, with a presentable image.

Monthly payments ranges from RMB 12,000 to 15,000

The options of full-time (RMB12,000 to 15,000 per month) or part-time (RMB70-90 per hour) employment are available. For inquiries and application, please contact Ms. Hu at 136-3159 3166 or 0755-2290 9515.

## Mobile Game company business development position. A NASDAQ-listed Shenzhen-based mobile

game company. iDreamSky is looking for an expat for one business development position, native English speaker and fluent in Mandarin a must, well versed with mobile games or business negotiation experience a plus. Responsible for looking for Western games suitable for the Chinese market and contacting the game developers. Our office is located in

Nanshan district, Shenzhen, If interested, please send resume to Evan at evan.liang@ idreamsky.com.

#### **MOVING & SHIPPING**

**AGS Four Winds** is a leading international moving company that offers a full range of relocation, moving and storage services. With our global network of over 300 offices worldwide plus 40 years experience in the moving industry, we know your concerns and have the ability to serve you anywhere in the world.

We are FAIM & ISO 9001-2008 accredited, members of the FAIM and FIDI. Contact us for FREE survey and quotation: Tel: +8620 8363 3735/ +86 139 2277 1676 Email: manager.guangzhou@ agsfourwinds.com Website: www.agsfourwinds.com

Rayca Moving & Transportation Services With 10 years experience, Rayca provides international, domestic, local moving services & pet relocation service. We can effectively move you anywhere at competitive prices! You move, you save!

Service hotline: 400-048-9099 Email: info@raycatrans.com Website:www.raycatrans.com





Your soulmate will appear this month on the metro and conveniently sit right next to you on your Monday morning rush hour ride. Can't find an open seat? Better luck with Cupid's arrow next month.



Your strange sense of humor will win you a lot of virtual awkward silences, so lay off posting weird WeChat stickers of yourself for the time being and switch your comedic focus to the Trump administration instead.



It's getting cold. All you can think of is hotpot. Go big and take yourself out to Haidilao for a nice dinner. You deserve to treat your fabulous self every now and then



You're feeling a little tired and stressed so maybe it's time to find a less demanding job. Switch things up for a bit and try freelance writing or start vlogging your daily routine to the world. You do love the spotlight.



Your mobile devices have been a constant energy drain, so stop tweeting every single thought and try having a face-to-face conversation. Wait, there's no character limit? How does that work?



All of your friends are getting married, having kids and moving on with their lives but you're still curing those hangovers after Coco Park every weekend. Try adopting a cat. On second thought, don't. You can barely take care of yourself.



The year is almost over, and like most people, you haven't even checked off one thing on your New Year's resolutions list. The good news is, unlike your annual leave days, they can be carried over to 2019. Yay!



The god of wealth is smiling upon you this month so try your luck at playing the lottery. If you win, donate half of your winnings to your friend's Kickstarter campaign for that album he's been trying to put out, but don't expect to see a penny of it ever again.



Avoid going to Hong Kong on weekends this month. Not because you can't afford it but it's a pain slogging through tourist crowds for a decent hike. Instead, why not try VR? It's basically the same as a vacation.



You've been putting off taking your relationship to the next level for a few months now and it's finally time to do it. Invite that special someone home with you because you've got really fast Wi-Fi for hunting down Singles Day deals on Tmall.



Spending a lot of time on the road this month means things will get a little out of control back home in Shenzhen. Be sure to remind your *ayi* not to touch a single thing on your desk or you might start to feel like you're going crazy.



Your regular Meituan deliveryman might be into you, but those feelings should not be reciprocated. Maybe just give him a five-star rating on the homepage on his next visit. He does always deliver pretty fast.











Mandarin Oriental, Guangzhou welcomes back Executive Chef

Stefano Baiocco from the Two Michelin-Starred Restaurant Villa Feltrinelli

From 6 to 10 November 2018

Mandarin Oriental, Guangzhou is delighted to welcome back renowned Italian chef Stefano Baiocco as he presents his unique gastronomic creations at Ebony. Last year his dining promotion caused much excitement in the city thanks to his unique cooking style, incorporating seasonal ingredients and fresh herbs in dishes that amazed diners.

This autumn Chef Stefano will doubtlessly continue to surprise and amaze Guangzhou diners authentic with flavours in his new and exciting culinary creations.

Semi-Buffet Lunch with Michelin Star main course

12:00 noon to 2:30 pm CNY 388\* per person Nine-Course Set Dinner

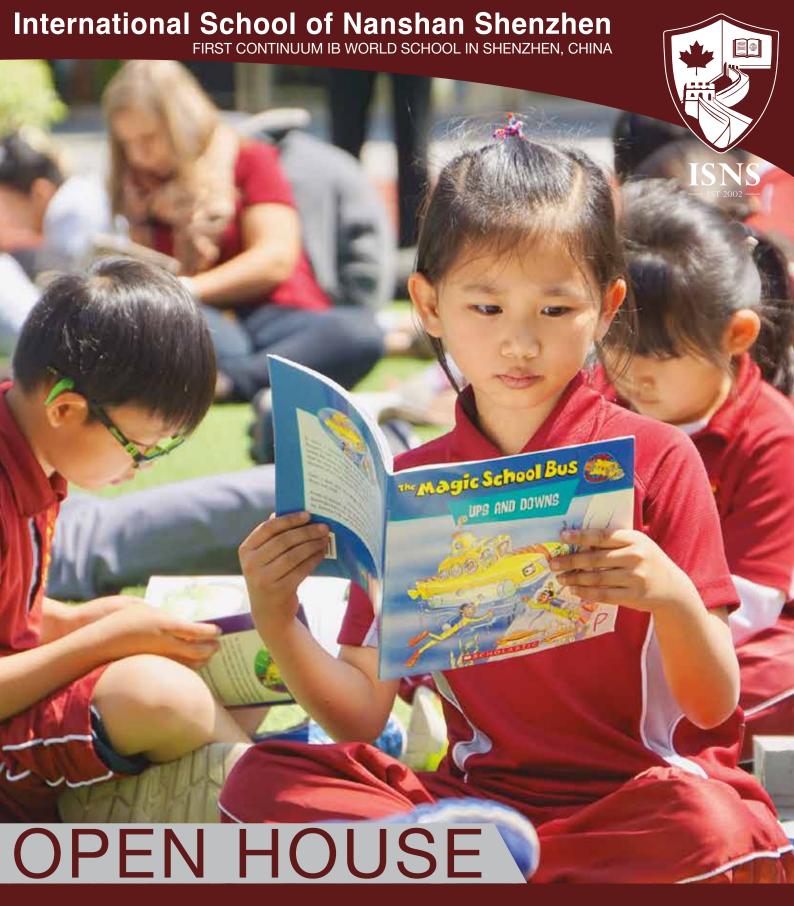
6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

CNY 1,088\* per person

CNY 1,688\* per person (with wine pairing)

Prices are subject to 15% service charge.

For information or reservations, please call: +86 (20) 3808 8884



REGISTER NOW



## LOWER PYP

AGE 4 - GRADE 2

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

## **UPPER PYP**

GRADES 3 - 5

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2** 







